

THE TIMES
1785-1985

Tomorrow

Healing the breach
How doctors are turning to alternative medicine

Inner sanctum
Alan Franks invades the Englishwoman's bedroom

The new socialism
Jack Straw rejects ragged trousered romanticism

Pasta master
Home-made ravioli by The Times Cook

Portfolio

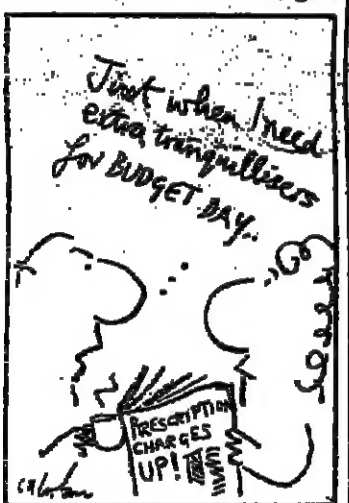
There is £4,000 to be won in today's Times Portfolio competition: £2,000 because there was no winner yesterday and today's prize of £2,000. Portfolio list, page 18; how to play, information service, back page. On Saturday £22,000 can be won; the weekly prize of £20,000 and the daily £2,000.

MPs attack 'fixing' of oil prices

The Commons Energy Select Committee has urged the Government to admit it "collaborates" with the Opec cartel to fix international oil prices. The Government was also criticized for using Britain's oil, gas and electricity industries to raise revenue. Page 19

Fee in doubt

Mr Alasdair Milne, Director-General of the BBC, has conceded for the first time in public that the corporation faces the possibility of not getting its £65 colour licence fee. Page 2



Healing skin

A woman is to receive a graft at a Birmingham hospital from skin grown in a laboratory - regarded as a great aid for burn victims. Page 3

Farm freeze call

Britain has called for a freeze and some cuts in many proposed EEC farm prices at a meeting of agriculture ministers in Brussels.

Vice gang jailed

The ringleaders of a vice syndicate who forced girls into prostitution and tortured and abused them were jailed for between two and seven years at the Central Criminal Court. Page 3

Cup highlight

Manchester United have been drawn against Liverpool at Goodison Park in the semi-final round of the FA Cup on April 13. Page 28

Leader page, 15
Letters: On phone-tapping, from Mr Roy Jenkins, MP; football penalties, from Mr H Green

Leading articles: President Chernenko; Greece, Germany, Features, pages 12-14; Milan puts suits into fashion; Geneva struggles with the nuclear genie; Moscow exults over the new leader; Food Leninists caught out by the sticky bun; City rebirth under a cloud

Computer Horizons, pages 22-24
Acorn's decline: how it happened; The Stock Exchange opens up: Electronic eavesdropping for £100

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Computer appointments, legal appointments, general appointments

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The serial number of yesterday's Times should have read 62,083

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Swift Kremlin change after death of Chernenko

Gorbachov takes office with plea for arms accord

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The Kremlin leadership underwent a swift and potentially drastic transformation in the course of a single day yesterday, with the death of President Chernenko at the age of 73 announced in the afternoon and Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, aged 54, installed as the new leader by the evening.

In a speech to the Central Committee, Mr Gorbachov said Moscow wanted agreement with America at the Geneva arms talks which open today, observing: "The peoples of the world would sigh with relief". Russia wanted an end to missile deployments in space and on earth and a nuclear freeze. An agreement "on an honest and equitable basis" was the only reasonable way out, but it was up to America to understand Moscow's position and respond in kind.

Mr Gorbachov was elected at a speedily convened emergency session of the Central Committee. He was nominated by Mr Andrei Gromyko, the veteran Foreign Minister, who although a member of the Kremlin "old guard", has long favoured a transition to Mr Gorbachov.

The funeral of Mr Chernenko will take place on Red Square tomorrow, and will provide an opportunity for foreign leaders to assess Mr Gorbachov at first hand.

In his speech he said his administration would pursue détente and "respond to good-will with goodwill, to trust with trust. But everyone should know that we shall never waive

the interest of our motherland or our allies". Moscow also wanted good relations with Peking, and this was quite possible, "given reciprocity".

Soviet television showed Mr Gorbachov leading the Politburo at President Chernenko's lying-in-state at the Hall of Columns near Red Square, and comforting Mr Chernenko's relatives.

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The death of President Chernenko was announced "with deep sorrow" on television by a black-suited senior announcer at 1400 Moscow time after mounting speculation following the sudden recall of top Soviet party leaders from America, Yugoslavia and West Germany.

The statement said Mr Chernenko had died at 1920 Moscow time on Sunday, "after a grave illness". A medical report signed by Dr Yevgeny Chazov, the Politburo surgeon and other Kremlin doctors, confirmed that Mr Chernenko had long suffered from emphysema, a lung complaint. It said he died of heart failure following the deterioration of his lungs and liver. His condition had been worsened by chronic hepatitis which developed into cirrhosis.

In an address to the Soviet

people, the Kremlin called on Russians to "rally even closer round the party in its hour of grave loss". There was regret but little grief at the passing of Mr Chernenko, who ruled for just over a year, coupled with expectation that the reform-minded Mr Gorbachov would revive far-reaching innovations begun by President Andropov before his death last year.

Mr Chernenko's death occurred on the eve of the new Geneva arms talks, but Soviet officials said the Soviet-American dialogue would continue as planned. Diplomats said the return to dialogue was the main achievement of Mr Chernenko's 13 months in power.

A Kremlin obituary described Mr Chernenko as an outstanding figure and a consistent fighter for the triumph of the ideals of communism and peace on earth from his peasant origins in the Krasnoyarsk region of Siberia to high office in the Kremlin. He had been a "responsive and demanding leader sensitive to the needs of working people".

Speculation about the Soviet leader's health mounted during his absence in January and February, and was strengthened rather than reduced when the Kremlin tried to allay anxieties by showing television film of Mr Chernenko during and after local elections at the end of last month.

Even though the film was heavily edited, he appeared weak and ill. He missed the gala meeting at the Bolshoi last Thursday, and Mr Gorbachov -

Continued on back page, col 1



Mr Gorbachov: Hasty election by Central Committee

Business as usual in Geneva

From Nicholas Ashford, Brussels

The American approach to the arms control talks which open in Geneva today would be one of "business as usual", Mr Richard Burt, the top US official for European and Soviet affairs, said in Brussels yesterday after the death of President Chernenko was announced.

Speaking after a special briefing session for NATO officials on US negotiating strategy at Geneva, Mr Burt said he was confident that the Soviet delegation would be able to proceed in a businesslike manner.

"We hope that the Soviet approach at the negotiations will be realistic and flexible."

NATO officials expressed satisfaction that the talks would not be delayed by Mr Chernenko's death, they believed that the Soviet Union's strategy had been worked out some time ago and was based on the expectation that his death was imminent.

The death announcement coincided with a carefully orchestrated move by the US and its NATO allies to present a united front at today's opening session in Geneva.

In the morning the Nato council received a detailed briefing from Mr Max Kampelman, head of the American delegation, on how the US intended to approach negotiations. He was accompanied by his two partners, Mr John Tower and Mr Maynard Glitman.

Afterwards the council issued a statement expressing broad support for the approach.

However, according to one Nato source, some European officials present expressed concern about the effect which the Administration's determination to press ahead with its space defence research programme might have on the outcome of the talks.

In the afternoon Mr Burt and Mr Glitman held a separate briefing session with NATO's special consultative group on intermediate-range nuclear weapons (INF) of which Mr Burt is chairman. The group expressed full support for the US approach in seeking the reduction and eventual elimination of INF missiles.

The opening position of the Americans at Geneva will essentially be the one it held when the Soviet Union walked out of the previous INF talks in 1983, but Mr Burt emphasized that there was "a lot of elbow room for flexibility".

Mr Paul Spicer, a Lough director, said: "We sold the shares because we thought there was a strong possibility that the Egyptians' bid would be referred to the Monopolies Commission."

Lough has kept a token 50,000 shares and says it might yet make a bid.

Under Al-Fayed ownership it is expected that Professor Roland Smith, Fraser's non-executive chairman, will be appointed chief executive, and that his salary will be doubled to £100,000 a year.

NHS drug and dental charges up

By Nicholas Timmins

Prescription charges are to rise by 40p to £2 from April 1 with a 28 per cent increase in income from dental charges and with charges for National Health Service pay beds rising by 14 per cent on average.

The announcement by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, brought shouts of "disgraceful" and "resign" from the opposition in the House of Commons.

The 25 per cent prescription charge increase, at five times the rate of inflation, means the charge has risen tenfold since the Conservatives took office in 1979.

Pharmacists yesterday estimated that, with the average cost of an NHS prescription at £4.50, those who pay the £2 prescription charge will be paying the full cost or more than the full cost for at least a quarter of their medicines.

Mr Michael Meacher, Labour's chief social services spokesman said: "That is a real tax on the sick. Making people pay more than the real cost of their prescriptions is getting the sick to subsidise the NHS."

Dental charges are being restructured to increase income from £172 million this year to £221 million next year - a 28.4 per cent increase.

The charge for routine treatment rises from a maximum of £14.50 to £17, but from April 1 patients will have to pay two-fifths of any extra cost above that figure.

As a result, charges for more complex treatments such as crowns, dentures, inlays and bridges will rise by smaller percentages of between six and 10 per cent.

Exemptions for both prescription and dental charges remains the same, with just under half of all courses of dental treatment provided free.

Pay bed charges rise by an average of 14 per cent, but with wide variations by type of hospital. A single room in a provincial non-teaching hospital will now cost £120 a day, an increase of nine per cent. But pay beds in teaching hospitals rise by between 18 and 19 per cent to £166 a day in London and £137 a day outside.

Pay beds in the Hospital for Sick Children and the National Heart and Chest Hospitals rise by 31 per cent to £253 a day, but the other London post-graduate hospitals rise by only 9.5 per cent to £183 a day. Charges for tests also rise significantly, often by 20 per cent or more.

The Al-Fayed owns the Ritz Hotel in Paris, and property in Park Lane, Rockefeller Plaza in New York, and in the Champs Elysees. Other interests include a small stake in a Texas corporation.

Israelis kill 30 in raid on Lebanon village

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

The Israeli Army stormed a Shia Muslim village just north of its new front line and killed at least 30 people, whom a terse official communiqué later described only as "terrorists" who had died during "searches".

The huge operation, which was reported to have included the use of helicopters, was the biggest launched by Israel since the siege of Beirut in 1982. Inevitably it was seen as bloody retaliation for the 12 Jewish soldiers killed by a Muslim suicide bomber on Sunday, although no mention of this was made in the army communiqué. The 10-line communiqué, which attempted no explanation about the circumstances of the killings, claimed that the swoop on the village of Zariye, north west of Tyre, was "carried out in the wake of attacks from this sector, as well as reports of preparations for terrorist activities against our troops".

The attack, which was punctuated by extensive gunfire and explosions, led to the fourth Israeli claim in a fortnight with the official Lebanese Army, 10 of whose soldiers were captured. Last night, the Israeli Army spokesman had no information about what would happen to them.

The timing and ruthless ferocity of the operation, in which it was claimed that "large numbers of suspects were caught and large quantities of material seized", was designed to make clear that the so-called "iron fist" policy in Lebanon will continue, not only unabated but intensified.

Stunned by a grim succession of 12 military funerals yesterday afternoon, the Israeli public appeared in little mood to question the facts behind the killing of so many Lebanese villagers. The bald fact of their deaths was issued by the Army at a time when the nation was in mourning.

Journalists were blocked from entering Zariye during the fighting and radios said that five journalists narrowly escaped injury when an Israeli Merkava tank fired once in their direction as they moved toward the village.

Villagers who fled said the shelling began at 11pm Sunday night and that the Israeli armoured advance began at "first light" yesterday.

The Israelis raiding party left Zariye shortly after 4pm and 150 men away with them in two buses and a truck.

Shin Bet menace, page 3

NCB presses for an end to overtime ban

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The National Coal Board last night increased the pressure on miners to end their 16-month overtime ban with the despatch to pitmen's homes of a letter from Mr Ian MacGregor in which the board chairman repeats the warning that there will be no pay rises until the ban is lifted.

As pits return to normal working with the end of the strike, the board is concerned that up to 18 per cent of the normal 2 million tonnes a week of production will be lost by continuation of the overtime ban, which largely affects vital weekend maintenance work.

About 1,800 miners at three pits in Lancashire were sent home yesterday because the overtime ban had prevented repairs to equipment over the weekend. Overtime was worked in Nottinghamshire for the first time since the ban started, and most pits in the coalfield were working normally yesterday.

Mr MacGregor said in his letter to the 186,000 miners: "Now that the strike is over every effort must be made to restore harmony within the industry, so that we can resume our respective responsibilities to ourselves, our families, our communities, and the industry that sustains us."

While asking for co-operation in ensuring safety underground, the coal board chairman made clear that the 5.2 per cent pay offer made in October 1983 would not be honoured until the overtime ban was lifted. A 5.2 per cent increase has already

Continued on page 2, col 1

Regret, but no grief, in the streets

From Richard Owen, Moscow

"Poor Man", said a heavily muffled middle-aged lady at a bus stop near the Moscow River. "They should have let him retire long ago."

There was a mood of regret mingled with pity on the streets of a crisp and sunny Moscow yesterday, but no surprise and no public outpouring of grief. Mr Chernenko's deterioration had been so prolonged and so painfully visible, that it had been long expected.

It was the third time in as many years that Muscovites had woken to funeral music on the radio.

For many Russians the decisive moment came two weeks ago when in an effort to reassure the world the Kremlin staged an elaborate farce posing an enfeebled Mr Chernenko on television casting his vote in the local Soviet elections, though not at a public polling station, and subsequently receiving his credentials as a parliamentary deputy.

He could scarcely wheeze his thanks, or hold the bunch of red carnations given to him by overly solicitous officials.

Yesterday the thoughts of most Muscovites were of the future rather than the past. "What we need is a young and vigorous boss", a fresh-faced far-haired policeman on a snow-lined avenue said, raising his clenched fist in anticipation of the appointment of Mikhail Gorbachov, aged 54.

The expectation is that Mr Gorbachov will at last open up the country to badly needed reforms, but there is also a deeply engrained pessimism at the real prospects for change in a country weighed down by

Continued on back page, col 1

Thatcher to attend Moscow funeral

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher, will fly to Moscow today to attend Mr Chernenko's funeral, accompanied by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary.

Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, and Dr David Owen, leader of the Social Democrats, have accepted invitations to travel on her aircraft, which will leave London after Mrs Thatcher has answered questions in the Commons this afternoon.

Yesterday Mrs Thatcher sent a condolence message to the Soviet Prime Minister, Mr Nikolai Tikhonov. A statement from 10 Downing Street said Mrs Thatcher had learned with regret of the death of Mr Chernenko, whose loss had "deprived the Soviet Union of an experienced leader". Mrs Thatcher's only meeting with Mr Chernenko was during her visit to Moscow in February, 1984 to attend the funeral of his predecessor, Mr Yuri Andropov.

The emergence as party leader of Mr Mikhail Gorbachov received wide, though cautious approval at Westminster from numerous politicians who met him during his visit to Britain last December.

Mrs Thatcher said after discussions with the Soviet visitor: "I like Mr Gorbachov. We can do business together."

She added: "We both believe in our own political systems. We are never going to change one another. But we have two great interests in common: that we should do everything we can to see that war never starts again, and therefore we go into the disarmament talks determined to make them succeed."

"And secondly, I think we both believe that they are the

more likely to succeed if we can build up confidence in one another."

Mr Kinnock described Mr Gorbachov as "fluent, amiable, bright, up-to-date in a lot of his attitudes, tough, someone you can enjoy having an argument with".

Dr Owen has said he would welcome Mr Gorbachov's emergence.

A debate on the desire of Britain and other Western democracies to seek better relations with the Soviet Union, which was to have taken place

in the House of Lords tomorrow, has been postponed until April 22, because of President Chernenko's death.

● **WASHINGTON:** The Reagan Administration said yesterday that it would pursue a "patient, consistent and realistic" policy towards the Soviet Union under Mr Gorbachov's leadership (Christopher Thomas writes).

The White House announced that the vice-president, Mr George Bush, will head the US delegation to Mr Chernenko's funeral. He hopes to meet Mr Gorbachov, Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, will also attend.

The Administration said: "Opportunities for genuine peace and for progress in US-Soviet relations exist and we will do our part to bring that about. We would like to count on Soviet willingness to work with us to that end."

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Pound gains 1.87 cents on weak dollar

The pound rose by nearly two cents against a shaky dollar yesterday, David Smith writes.

The dollar fell against all currencies as doubts emerged over US economic growth and the expected surge in interest rates there. The pound's rise has added to hopes of an early base rate cut.

The pound was generally

strong, the sterling index gaining 0.5 to 71.6. The dollar, in addition to losing 1.87 cents to \$1.0880 against the pound, fell 5½ pence to DM3.3385 against the mark.

Producer price figures for Britain showed a disturbing increase in inflationary pressures, mainly due to the pound's earlier weakness.

national mining, hotel and casino group, which had been warring with Fraser for seven years. But they were barred from further purchases until yesterday.

The Al-Fayed brothers still have to be cleared by the Government before they can become the new owners of Fraser.

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, is expected to make a statement tomorrow on whether the bid will be referred to the Monopolies Commission. A

reference is thought unlikely.

The Al-Fayed made their bid through a UK investment vehicle, Al-Fayed Investment and Trust (UK) which clinched control with a stock market share buying spree which added almost 32.4 million shares at 403.5p each.

One of the first stakes it picked up through the market was 9.6 million shares owned by Lough, from which it had bought the original 29.9 per cent holding for £138 million. Lough made a £10 million profit on yesterday's deal.

Details, page 19

Egyptians spend £313m for control of Harrods

By Philip Robinson

Three Egyptian brothers had by last night spent £313 million buying enough shares in the stock market to gain control of Harrods, the Knightsbridge store and flagship of the House of Fraser group.

Messrs Mohamed, Salah and Ali Al-Fayed last week offered to buy the 102-store chain for £615 million cash, and gained directors' agreement for the bid. They had bought a third of the Fraser shares from Lough, the inter-

national mining, hotel and casino group, which had been warring with Fraser for seven years. But they were barred from further purchases until yesterday.

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Rate-cap fiasco deals blow to Livingstone's Parliament hope

By Rupert Morris

Mr Ken Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council, was taking yesterday to head off a hard-left backlash which could threaten his parliamentary ambitions in the wake of Sunday night's rate-capping fiasco at County Hall.

Mr Livingstone's supporters were telephoning Labour members in Brent East, where the GLC leader is confident of winning a reselection contest for the seat held by Mr Reg Fresson, to explain his position over rate-capping.

Since Mr Fresson announced last week that he would not be contesting the Brent East seat as the official Labour candidate, Mr Livingstone, who has been building up support in the constituency, has faced growing doubts about his leftist credentials: he has already lost the support of the far-left Socialist Organizer faction, and there are other hard-left groups understood to be looking for an alternative candidate.

Although Miss Diane Abbott,

a GLC press officer, is the most widely publicized rival to Mr Livingstone, there are others who might win hard-left support, including Mr Chris St Hill, a councillor from Islington.

Brent Broad Left, a group of mainstream Labour supporters, is known to be sceptical about Mr Livingstone. It distrusts his links with far left groups such as the GLC.

There is a further possibility that Mr Fresson, though he has lost the support of local Labour activists, might stand as an independent and win enough votes to threaten Mr Livingstone and let in the Conservative candidate. Labour won Brent East with a 6,000 majority over the Conservatives in 1983.

Sunday's vote, when the GLC eventually agreed a 1985-86 rate cap of 2.5p in the pound lower than the Government's rate-capped limit, was described by Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, as "utterly destroying" Ken Livingstone's credibility as a political leader.

Print staff set to do the work of journalists

By Barrie Clement
Labour Reporter

The National Union of Journalists has conceded the crucial principle of National Graphical Association recognition in editorial departments.

An internal memorandum written by Mr Jacob Ecclestone, deputy general secretary of the journalists' union, to the national executive, effectively admits that a breach of NUJ territory at The News, Portsmouth, will have to be accepted.

An emergency resolution from journalists' leaders to the union's annual delegate meeting later this month, will however, seek to limit the encroachment of the NGA, a headline craft union.

The NUJ will urge delegates to their conference to sign new technology agreements by-passing if necessary, traditional type-setting functions of association members. This constitutes a formal "declaration of war" on the NGA.

More than 70 NUJ members have been dismissed at The News for refusing to accept a new technology agreement which allowed for the transfer of NGA members to sub-editing duties and the recognition of their union.



Deep-freeze baby: Britain's first frozen embryo baby, Gregory Martyn Jackson with his happy parents, Janet, aged 34, and Tony, aged 35. The child who weighed 6lb and 8oz when he was born at St Mary's Hospital, Manchester, on Friday, was conceived by the test-tube method at Boura

Hall in Cambridgeshire and spent the first three months at embryo stage inside a deep frozen tank of liquid nitrogen. Mrs Jackson and her husband had been trying unsuccessfully for eight years to have a child before seeking the help of Cambridgeshire doctors Patrick Steptoe and Robert Edwards.

Genetic print gives key to identity

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Improvements in the treatment of inherited diseases, a precise test for establishing maternity and paternity, and the most accurate procedure for personal identification since fingerprinting was perfected have been made possible by the discovery of a genetics research team.

Smears of blood or other body fluids can now be analysed to provide a genetic "fingerprint" from which doctors may obtain a better insight into the illness of patients, and forensic scientists a unique key to identity.

The discovery, reported in *Nature*, depends upon what are called "hypervariable minisatellite" regions in human DNA, or the strand of material in the chromosomes in every cell of the body that contains a full set of the thousands of genes which govern each person's biological individuality.

According to Dr Alec Jeffreys and Mrs Victoria Wilson, at Leicester University, and Dr Sue Lay Thein, at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, everyone has small segments (minisatellites) of certain compositions of DNA dotted about the chromosomes. But the pattern is so varied (hypervariable) that any particular combination of the segments is as unique as a fingerprint.

More importantly, analysis of the DNA shows the molecular biologist where abnormalities might exist, giving rise to illness.

The method of analysing the DNA was tested on seven men and seven women, who were all unrelated. Each person was clearly identified.

BBC chief senses defeat on £65 fee

By David Hewson
Arts Correspondent

Mr Alasdair Milne, the Director-General of the BBC, conceded for the first time in public last night that the corporation faced the possibility of losing its battle for a rise in the colour licence fee from £46 to £65.

In a speech in Scotland, issued at short notice to the Press Mr Milne said that public service broadcasting could change beyond recognition within the lifetime of this Parliament.

"The enormous care that has gone into this application is making, or should make, it very difficult for the Government to arrive at an arbitrary figure below £65 that is based on only one overriding political assumption - namely that such a sum will not provoke too much opposition," Mr Milne said.

"There can be no doubt whatever that if there were a considerable shortfall the BBC would find itself compelled to make substantial cuts in both its radio and television services."

Mr Milne said that the public discussion of future broadcasting policy was fraught with ambiguity. "Politicians are at best wary of the influence of broadcasting, which in terms of public opinion they cannot afford to control directly, but over whose money supply they can exert direct legislative and executive action."

"They are themselves far too busy and wrapped up in the political process to form first-hand opinions on the standard of programmes or to understand thoroughly what the real connection is between broadcasting finance and programme quality."

Costs comparison, page 3

NUM politics in the balance

By David Felton,
Labour Correspondent

Post-strike strains are likely to test the structure of the National Union of Mineworkers as the union enters the most critical period in its 41-year history.

Pressures in the Midlands coalfields, where men worked during the 51-week dispute, could well produce a change in the political balance of the union's 25-man executive as working miners express their disenchantment with the way the strike was conducted by the national leadership.

Voting in delayed elections for the executive is about to start and further ballots to elect delegates to the NUM's policy-making conference could also mark a shift to the right in what is predominantly a left-wing body.

The annual conference, which will meet in Sheffield for two days in July, is the supreme body within the union and has

been a power base for Mr Arthur Scargill, NUM president, because of its composition of union activists.

Answerable to the 123 delegates at the conference is the national executive on which sit representatives of the union's 19 geographical and craft areas.

The larger areas, such as Yorkshire, South Wales and Nottinghamshire, send more than one representative to the executive and, in addition to the 24 members, Mr Scargill sits on the executive with a casting vote and Mr Peter Heathfield, the general secretary, who does not have a vote.

There are three elected national officials. Mr Scargill and Mr Heathfield who are voted into office at a secret individual pithead ballot, and the vice-president, Mr Michael McGahey, who is elected every two years by the executive.

Most members of the executive come up for election every two years, although some area rules allow for representatives to sit

on the executive until retirement.

The NUM has a federal structure which gives individual areas a large amount of autonomy, although in the case of a dispute between the national and area leadership, the local area should give way. This is the point that is crucial to the Nottinghamshire area's decision to break away from the national union by a refusal to accept the sovereignty of the national rule book.

Each area has a president, general secretary and an executive, elected by branch or "lodge" meetings at each pit. Voting for the national and local executives and local officials is by show of hands at branch meetings.

Lodge meetings are held at pits, or miners' welfare, usually on a monthly basis to discuss local issues of production, industrial relations and safety.

Pressures for changes in the NUM leadership has so far been centred on the Nottinghamshire area which has two officials, Mr David Prendergast and Mr Roy Link, standing by to take the seats of the area's current representatives on the national executive. The decision by the Nottinghamshire area yesterday to dismiss Mr Henry Richardson, the left-wing general secretary, was the first step in that process.

Grassroots revolts against the current leadership could, however, be countered by moves by the left, which has a nominal 13-11 majority on the national executive, to change the method of representation leading to the executive having an in-built 11-7 advantage.

The Queen calls for youth links

By Alan Hamilton

The Queen appealed for more contact between young people in the Commonwealth in her annual Commonwealth Day message read in schools and at religious services in 49 countries throughout the world yesterday.

As head of the Commonwealth, the Queen chose International Youth Year as her theme. "Modern communications and technology provide more opportunities each year which we should all seize so as to get to know one another better, thus helping to avoid misunderstandings. Such contacts among you, the youth of the Commonwealth, are a vital element in creating understanding and tolerance between different peoples and countries."

The Commonwealth, the Queen said, was founded on a combination of tradition and progress, on a spirit of service and on practical help.

Photograph, page 16

Training boost for technology skills

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

The Government is creating a package of measures designed to boost youth training and to make up the shortfall in skills in the high technology industries.

The measures, some of which may be part of the Budget, will make funds and resources available so that industry can play a bigger role in financing training than at present. The British record in this area of industrial training is extremely poor compared with our main commercial competitors.

Britain spends about £2.5 billion a year on in-company training and education compared with Germany's £5 billion, Japan's £20 billion and the United States' £60 billion. In Japan the average large company spends between 3 per cent and 5 per cent of its turnover on education and training. In Britain the figure is below 1 per cent.

In the past 12 months the National Economic Development Office, the House of Lords Science Committee, on Science and Technology and even the advisers of the Department of

Teachers switch to no-strike union

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The smallest teachers' union, which has a no-strike policy, disclosed yesterday that its membership had been rising since the start of last month of industrial action by teachers.

The Professional Association of Teachers (PAT) said that its membership stood at 30,847. Mr Peter Dawson, general secretary, said the numbers rose by 302 last week.

The week in which the association recruited most members - 903 - was the

second in February, at the start of the disruptive action by the biggest teachers' union, the National Union of Teachers (NUT).

Yesterday the NUT wrote to Newcastle on Tyne education authority giving it until noon on Friday to withdraw a letter saying teachers would have money deducted for refusing to cover for absent colleagues. If it is not withdrawn, the union will go to the High Court for a declaration that the action is illegal.

NCB increases pressure for end to overtime ban

Continued from page 1

been paid to pit deputies and colliery managers.

The last two pits to return to work, Comrie and Polmaise, in Scotland, are due to resume production this morning.

Yesterday it became known that Mr Michael McGahey, vice-president of the National Union of Mineworkers, was attacked near his Edinburgh home on Friday night, suffering facial and body cuts, and

bruising. His glasses were also smashed in the assault by two men.

Hundreds of men walked out at Beithshanger Colliery, Kent, again yesterday, after the coal board refused to let miners who had been dismissed inspect the mine.

An NCB spokesman said: "Temper were a bit frayed and the whole atmosphere was threatening."

MacGahey hurt in attack by two men

By Staff Reporters

Mr Michael McGahey, president of the Scottish miners and vice-president of the National Union of Mineworkers, is recovering at home in Edinburgh after being attacked by two unidentified men.

The assault, which left Mr McGahey badly shaken and bruised, took place last Friday evening after he had returned from talks in Perth with Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party.

Mr McGahey's eyes were blackened, his nose damaged, and ribs kicked as he fell to the ground during the attack.

"I honestly think they were a

couple of hit men sent to do a job on me," he said yesterday.

The assault was not reported, but Lohian and Borders police said that they would be sending an officer to see Mr McGahey.

Mr Albert Wheeler, director of the National Coal Board in Scotland, said that he was saddened by the news. "It is a disgrace that anyone attempting to do his job should be subjected to any form of violence."

At Comrie colliery, Fifeshire, yesterday, about 500 men were turned away from the main gates by management, refusing to allow miners who had been dismissed into the pit.

Mr Gordon Fjælberg, a South Wales miner, decided to stay at home yesterday after complaining of threats to his life and attacks on his home at Beddall.

Police also confirmed that 12 people, mainly women, had been reported for alleged criminal offences outside the smokeless fuel plant at Aberdare, Mid-Glamorgan, where Mr Paul Watson has been the target for attacks.

235 miners at the flooded Polkemmet colliery, Whitburn, West Lothian, have accepted voluntary redundancy, and a further 100 have been voluntarily transferred.

Foyer music saved by sponsorship

By Our Arts Correspondent

The National Theatre's foyer music events have been saved by private sponsorship from the accountancy firm Arthur Andersen and a grant from the Office of Arts and Libraries.

The grant, totalling £30,000, brought the Arts Minister Lord Gowrie, and the director of the National Theatre Sir Peter Hall together yesterday for the first time since the public dispute between them about the present level of arts grants which has led to cuts at the theatre.

Sir Peter, who shook Lord Gowrie's hand at the Arthur Andersen offices and said he did not want to score political points, described the meeting as convivial, and said he was enormously grateful for the grant.

"The National Theatre isn't opposed to private sponsorship. We know we live in a mixed



Mr Ronnie Gorlin (left) and Arthur Andersen, with Sir Peter Hall (centre) and Lord Gowrie yesterday.

economy, we know we must get as much sponsorship as possible. I hope very much, minister, that when we come next year with our begging

bowls we shan't be given £30,000 less," he said.

Lord Gowrie cited the grant, and one by Arthur Andersen to the Courtauld Institute of Art,

Magistrates are mugs fan says

A man who brought a Football League match to a halt when he ran on to the pitch and pushed the referee yesterday called the magistrates who bound him over for causing a breach of the peace "mugs".

Donald Barrett, aged 22, of Thornton Heath, south-east London, spoke after being bound over in the sum of £100 for a year at Croydon Magistrates' Court, where the magistrate heard how he ran on to the pitch during Saturday's second division match between his team Crystal Palace and Wolverhampton Wanderers.

Barrett had attacked Mr David Axcell, the referee, after he thought his team should have been awarded a penalty. The game was stopped while stewards and police escorted him from the ground.

£480,000 left by pool girl

Miss Cathy Pelly, who died aged 16 while taking a nude swim at Darrington Hall school, left an estate of £480,000, it was disclosed yesterday. She had no will, but her mother, Mrs Joanna Pelly, has been granted probate over the money.

Miss Pelly was the granddaughter of Charles shoe millionaire, Mr Tony Clark. An inquest jury returned an open verdict on her death.

Band scrapped

Merseyside's Labour-controlled council yesterday voted to disband its police band after councillors were told it was costing the authority nearly £4 million a year.

The Times overseas selling prices: £2.70 (Canada \$4.50), £2.80 (USA \$4.50), £2.90 (France \$4.50), £3.00 (Germany \$4.50), £3.10 (Italy \$4.50), £3.20 (Japan \$4.50), £3.30 (Spain \$4.50), £3.40 (Sweden \$4.50), £3.50 (Switzerland \$4.50), £3.60 (Austria \$4.50), £3.70 (Belgium \$4.50), £3.80 (Netherlands \$4.50), £3.90 (Portugal \$4.50), £4.00 (Greece \$4.50), £4.10 (Turkey \$4.50), £4.20 (Greece \$4.50), £4.30 (Greece \$4.50), £4.40 (Greece \$4.50), £4.50 (Greece \$4.50).

Havers may act over Nilsen book

By Our Political Correspondent

Sir Michael Havers, Attorney General, said last night that he would consider a prosecution of Jonathan Cape, the publishers, under the Obscene Publications Act 1959, over the book on the Dennis Nilsen killings.

Killing for Company: The Case of Dennis Nilsen, by Brian Masters was referred to the Attorney General in a Commons written question from Dr Brian Mawhinney, Conservative MP for Peterborough, who called for the prosecution of author and publishers.

The book, published last month, relates the story of the murder of 15 young men, some of whose corpses were disposed of by being chopped up and flushed down a lavatory.

Driving ban on TV actor

Sir Steven Pacey, the actor who played the character Tarrant in the television series *Blake's Seven*, was banned from driving for 18 months yesterday after admitting a drink driving charge, and was fined £200.

Magistrates at Herndon in London were told that Pacey, aged 27, was arrested two days after his break-up with Glynis Barber, the actress, star of television's *Dempsey and Makepeace*.

Hailsham drops appeal ban in justice Bill

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, has bowed to opposition over his plan to end an individual's right of appeal when refused leave to challenge a decision of a government body in the courts.

He was forced to withdraw the original proposal, contained in the Administration of Justice Bill, after widespread criticism from peers of all parties, led by Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls.

When the Bill comes before the Lords on Thursday, peers will be able to consider a compromise formula, which retains a right of appeal to the Court of Appeal as a long-stop.

The Lord Chancellor's original plan, intended to ease the Court of Appeal's workload, was that individuals refused leave by the High Court to

challenge an administrative decision by way of judicial review, would no longer have a right of appeal to the Court of Appeal.

Now he is proposing that where the High Court refuses leave, the individual can go to a divisional court presided over by a Court of Appeal judge. Where that court refuses leave, the individual can go as a final resort to the Court of Appeal, provided he obtains leave to do so either from that court or the divisional court.

Under the compromise formula it will be harder for individuals to reach the Court of Appeal to put their case than at present. But the right to go the higher court will be preserved, so the proposal may stand a better chance of being accepted.

Head defends pupil wives

The right of married teenage schoolgirls to continue their education was defended by a headmaster when Sarah McCormick, aged 16 started at his comprehensive school in Norwich yesterday.

The girl accepted a place at the school to study O levels when she was suspended from her private school, the Lonsdale in Norwich, after returning with a wedding ring two weeks ago.

Yesterday she travelled by car with her husband, Paul, aged 21, a double glazing assembler, to the Hewett Comprehensive School in Norwich.

Dr Walter Roy, headmaster of the school, said that it was not the first time the school had had a married pupil. "I cannot believe that in 1985 the fact a girl is married is causing such a fuss."

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Skin grown in laboratory will revolutionize the treatment of burn cases

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The first British patient to receive a skin graft using a revolutionary technique for growing human skin in the laboratory, is due to be treated on Thursday at the Birmingham Accident Hospital, West Midlands.

The woman, aged 43 and married, is seriously ill. She had 70 per cent of her skin burned off in a house fire five weeks ago.

Using a technique first applied to patients in the United States in 1981, a piece of skin the size of a postage stamp was taken from her thigh four weeks ago and has been grown into 20 three-inch by two-inch pieces, which will be grafted to the burns area.

A girl aged 12 with a rare disorder which stops her skin healing has also had a patch of skin removed, and that too, is being grown. It will be used to graft over a large ulcer on her leg in about two weeks.

Plastic surgeons believe that the technique, once perfected, will largely replace existing skin grafting methods, which for severely burned patients involves repeated and extremely painful operations, with an ever present risk of infection.

Specialists at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge also announced yesterday that they hope to start using laboratory-grown skin within three months, and surgeons at

Odstock Hospital, Salisbury, Wiltshire, are not far behind.

Once established the technique should prove not only safer but cheaper than existing methods, but because of health service spending limits both the Birmingham and Cambridge work is being supported by charity. The Birmingham unit has been launched with £45,000 raised by readers of two local newspapers.

Mr Paul Levick, consultant plastic surgeon at the Birmingham Accident Hospital, where the first attempts to grow human skin were made 40 years ago, said: "Patients with massive burns simply do not have enough normal skin left for grafting. We have to take skin from the donor area, graft it, and allow the donor area to recover for at least two weeks and take skin again."

"Millions of raw nerve ends are left exposed each time skin is taken, and patients often say the grafting is more painful than the burn itself."

Burns patients have to be allowed to recover from the initial shock before grafting, so that the time can now be used to grow skin for grafts. Experience in the United States, where two young brothers with more than 95 per cent burns were grafted last year, shows that laboratory-grown skin behaves like a normal graft, producing the slightly "glazed" look of grafted skin, without hair

follicles or sweat glands, but with sufficient flexibility to allow free movement.

The technique involves taking the donor patch, breaking it up into its constituent cells, and growing them on a mat of treated fibroblast cells from the deeper dermis of the skin, from which they can eventually be lifted to provide a layer of outer skin the thickness of cling film.

Placed on the wound, the skin thickens and grows to link with existing skin around the wound.

"The technique needs to be developed to provide more natural looking skin, but already it provides a life-saving procedure to cover the wound as quickly as possible," Mr Levick said.

At his hospital, 500 patients a year were admitted for burns, nearly 300 of them children. "We would hope to make this available to the most severely burned patients, concentrating at first on children as they are at most risk of infection, but also have skin that grows best in the laboratory because they are young. We hope, if the money can be raised, to treat 50 to 100 patients in the initial year."

The ability to grow skin in the laboratory is a by-product of research on cancer, carried out by scientists in the United States and Britain who wanted to study the behaviour of normal and cancerous skin cells.



Dr Margaret Stanley, a pathologist at Cambridge University, holding a skin-culture (Photograph: John Voos)

Down's baby trial told that father 'was uneasy'

Mr Paul Brown, father of Down's syndrome baby Louise, appeared "uneasy" when he booked into a seaside hotel the weekend she disappeared, a murder trial at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Miss Jacqueline Dawson, receptionist at the Sackville Hotel, Hove, Sussex, said two men in overalls came into the hotel last May.

They were later joined by two women and a child, and they all booked in for a night's stay. Miss Dawson said: "All four seemed a bit unusual, usually on a Sunday people are enjoying their weekend and have a chat at reception. These people did not say very much."

Although a cot had been requested for one of the two rooms used by the party, Miss Dawson said she did not see any sign of a baby.

Later she picked out two men and a woman at identification parades in London.

Mr Roy Amiot, for the prosecution, told the jury these were Mr Paul Brown, aged 30, roofer, who is accused of murdering Louise, on the night of May 26-27 last year, his brother Ian, aged 33, and Ian's wife, Brenda, aged 32, all of Sreatham.

The three and the woman with whom Paul Brown's was living, Susan Pullen, aged 30, the child's mother, deny conspiring to pervert the course of justice by making false statements to police designed to conceal the child's death. Ian Brown alone is charged with and denies assisting his brother by concealing the baby's body, which has not been found. The case continues.

Erosion flight

Asphalt-covered nylon matting has been laid on sections of the bank of the Thurne river in the Norfolk Broads in an experiment aimed at reducing erosion and flooding.

Vice gang leaders jailed after torture den complaints

The ringleaders of a gang of vice barons, known as "the Black Posse", were jailed by the Central Criminal Court yesterday after the biggest police crackdown on pimping in Britain.

The gang terrorized girls up and down the country forcing them on to the streets and threatening violence, torturing and beating them and subjecting them to sexual abuse, Mr Timothy Cassel, for the prosecution, said.

The leaders of the vice syndicate, working from their base in West Midlands, led the high life on profits which were said to run into millions of pounds. They drove expensive cars and gambled away huge sums of cash, the court was told.

One victim told police she earned £60,000 on the streets in four years and handed nearly all of it to the gang leaders. Other girls were earning £300 a night.

Donald Harris, aged 37, described as Britain's No 1 pimp, of Buchan Road, Peckham, south east London, was jailed for six years and nine months; Byron Rose, aged 25, of Aston House, Wandsworth Road, South Lambeth, for two years and six months; Carl Wilson, aged 28, of Humberstone-Crescent, Wolverhampton, for seven years; and

Robert Solomon, aged 23, of Daynor Court, Quex Road, Kilburn, for five years.

They were found guilty of living off immoral earnings, Harris was also convicted of kidnapping and assaults, Rose of assaults, Wilson of rape, and Solomon of wounding.

The court heard that a squad of six detectives under the command of Det Chief Supt John Marsden was formed to track down and smash the gang.

Girls had been going to the police with appeals for help. They said that if they escaped from the gang, and were recaptured they would be taken to a "torture den" in Inkerman St, Wolverhampton, for punishment.

One girl was given "hot and cold bath treatment", another threatened with death by electric shock, others were whipped and beaten with iron bars.

The squad kept observation on the leaders and they were trailed by patrol cars as they travelled up and down the M1 between the brothel districts of London and the Midlands.

Mr Marsden said after the verdict that the gang had influence in almost every main city in Britain. There were indications that the gang was planning to expand business to the rest of Europe.

Rover launches a Vitesse

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Austin Rover yesterday launched the Rover 216 Vitesse, a 112 mph leading model for its much-expanded range of its medium-sized Rover 200 series. It uses the company's British-made 1.6 litre engine and raises the local content of the Honda-designed car to 83 per cent, compared with 70 per cent for the smaller Japanese-engine version, the Rover 213.

With an eye on Rover's prospects in European markets this will be increased to 88 per cent and 75 per cent respectively later this year by substituting more British components.

French and Italian car makers have been bitter critics of the blossoming Anglo-Japanese partnership which first produced the Triumph Acclaim, (since renamed the Rover 200 series) and will be followed next year by Project XX, the replacement for the bigger Rover executive saloon.

The seven-model range now comprises three 1.3 litre versions and four 1.6s. Prices start at £5,997 for the base Rover 213 and reach £7,898 for the Rover 216 Vitesse.

Former RUC man held on bombing

A former police reservist in Northern Ireland is among 17 people held by detectives for questioning about terrorist crime, including the Provisional IRA mortar attack on Newry police station.

The Roman Catholic, aged 40, from Warren Point, Co. Down, was arrested during raids by detectives.

The former RUC reservist is in hospital after suffering a suspected heart attack while being questioned at Gough Barracks in Armagh city on Saturday. It is understood he resigned from the RUC reserve four years ago.

Two men from Newry were charged last week with the murder of three of the nine police officers killed in the explosion last month.

Rees-Mogg urges self-help on arts

Sir William Rees-Mogg, chairman of the Arts Council, gave a warning yesterday that the arts had to look first to themselves and their audiences, not the State, for their future and their growth.

In a lecture to a selected audience at IBM, previewed in *The Times* on Friday, Sir William said that the Arts Council's grant was equal to the interest on the capital cost of the Trident programme.

Donation saves toad campaign

The campaign to erect toad crossing signs on roads during the spawning season, has been saved by a £1,000 donation from a charitable trust.

Mr Tom Langton, of the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society, said that the trust, which asked to remain anonymous, responded to a report in *The Times* that the campaign had run out of money.

Girl injured by crossbow

A girl aged 18 was taken off the critical list in North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary yesterday after being shot in the stomach with a crossbow, in Tunstall, Stoke on Trent, on Sunday.

A man was arrested yesterday in connection with the incident.

Sea rescue

Mr Graham Ross from south London, Mr William Ward from Liverpool and Mr Patrick Baker from Manchester were rescued yesterday off the Norfolk coast after they drifted for two days without food in a crippled fishing boat.

Sanctuary couple left in the cold

By Richard Dowden

The Home Office has adopted a wait-and-see attitude towards the Cypriot couple who have sought sanctuary for the past two weeks in a north London church to avoid deportation.

In spite of the lack of heating in the church of St Mary, Eversholt Street, Somers Town, Mr Vassilis Nicola and his wife, Katerina, are as determined as ever to stay in the church until the Home Office reverses its decision to deport them.

Yesterday the heating oil ran out: it costs £250 a week to heat the church for the couple. They are being supported by relations, friends and the local community. The Home Office has let it be known that there will be no attempt to break into the church to seize the couple but a meeting is being sought with the Bishop of Edmonton, the Rt Rev Brian Masters, to try to find a solution.

There has been one meeting with immigration department officials and the bishop at which he resisted attempts to persuade him to give up his support for the couple.

Mr and Mrs Nicola left Cyprus after the Turkish invasion of 1974 forced them to leave their home and possessions in the north of the island.

Verdict on calves is challenged

The Compassion in World Farming pressure group asked the High Court in London yesterday to overrule magistrates who refused to convict monks of causing unnecessary distress and suffering to calves they were raising for veal.

Mr Patrick Bucknell, representing the pressure groups, argued that Steyning magistrates, west Sussex, wrongly refused to look at more humane systems of husbandry when considering it unnecessary suffering was caused at Gerston Farm, which is run by the premonstratensian Canons of Storrington Priory, West Sussex.

The magistrates had dismissed charges brought by the groups against Mr Luigi Ruggiero, farm manager at Gerston, after finding that "all animal husbandry involved animals in some suffering", and that there had been no unnecessary suffering as defined in law. They took into account that the veal calf unit had been funded and approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, and the RSPCA had decided there were no grounds for prosecution.

Yesterday Mr Bucknell contended that the suffering caused was unnecessary, although it was not alleged that Mr Luigi was guilty of cruelty. The hearing continues today.

Elton John tells court £6,000 watch 'vanished'

Elton John, the pop music star and football club director, told a jury at Central Criminal Court yesterday about the "disappearance" of his £6,000 gold watch.

Mr John, aged 37, said the watch, one of a limited edition made by Cartier, with sapphire diamonds on the face, had "vanished" from the bedside table at his home in Windsor.

Cornelius Culwick, aged 31, of Gloucester Road, Croydon, pleaded not guilty to stealing

Mr John's watch, and dishonestly receiving it.

Mr John told the court that he returned home from a visit to London in March 1983 with a friend, Mr Tommy Williams, and two others.

He took off his watch and a sapphire ring to have a bath and then watched videos with Mr Williams before falling asleep in the "video room" of his home.

It was not until the following evening that he noticed the watch was missing, he said.

Mr John was shown a watch and said he recognized it as his property.

Mr Nicholas Freeman, for the prosecution, said police found the watch when they raided Mr Culwick's home with a search warrant in June 1983.

Mr Culwick was asked to take off his pyjama bottoms and the watch was found hidden in the folds, Mr Freeman said.

At first Mr Culwick refused to tell detectives where the watch had come from. But later told an officer: "Do you know where it came from? You will laugh at the end of this. I'll give you a clue. Pinball wizard", a reference to one of Mr John's songs, the jury was told.

The trial was adjourned until today.



Elton John yesterday

BBC to compare costs with Channel 4

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The BBC is to compare television production costs with Channel Four. But, in a joint statement with Peat Marwick, which produced the "value for money" report on the corporation, the BBC denied yesterday that the unpublished part of the survey concluded that Channel Four was cheaper.

Mr Phil Redmond, the producer of the Channel Four soap opera *Brookside*, which the survey team compared with the BBC's *EastEnders*, estimated in *The Times* on Saturday that the Channel Four series cost half of its BBC rival.

Yesterday's statement said: "It is not true to say, as

reported in *The Times*, that the annexes to the Peat Marwick 'value for money' report on the BBC contain comparisons between the BBC and Channel Four drama costs. As has already been stated, these annexes do not include any conclusions additional to the published report.

"Peat Marwick did, however, recommend that further work be undertaken to examine comparability of costs and Bill Cotton, managing director, BBC Television, has already set in train talks with Channel Four."

The published section of the report says that it carried out

an overall comparison of hourly costs between BBC and Channel Four and a comparison between *Brookside* and *EastEnders*.

"Our comparisons were purely financial and did not attempt qualitative judgements", the report states.

"Nevertheless, on the basis of work done so far, we recommend that the Corporation should pursue comparisons with Channel Four in order to establish whether the corporation would benefit from changes in the mix of its programme sources, for example by increasing the use of independent producers."

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Election aftermath in France and West Germany

Mixed blessings all round in cantonal polls

From Diana Geddes, Paris

All five main political parties in France had something to be both sad and glad about when the final results of the cantonal elections were announced by the Ministry of the Interior yesterday.

Sunday's polling was in 1,953 cantons in metropolitan France, and in five overseas departments, whose results are not yet available.

The Socialists were pleased to see their wretched score of 20.9 per cent of the vote in last June's European elections rise to 24.8 per cent, but realize that they have a long way to go to have the remotest chance of remaining in power, possibly in some centre-left coalition, after the parliamentary elections next March.

The left-wing parties together obtained 41 per cent of the vote. But that includes the Communists, and it seems increasingly unlikely that they would consider forming a new coalition with the Socialists in 1986, despite their latest decision to step down in favour of better-placed Socialist candidates in next Sunday's run-off cantonal elections.

The Communists are pleased that their electoral decline has been checked, at least temporarily. The 12.5 per cent they achieved on Sunday is slightly up on their disastrous 11 per cent in the European elections. But they are all too painfully aware of the ground they have

lost since the same cantons held elections in 1979, when they obtained 22.5 per cent of the vote.

The two main opposition parties, the Gaullist RPR and the centre-right UDF, were pleased to see the combined forces of the right achieve 57.9 per cent, fractionally above their highly successful score in the European elections.

Both parties are nevertheless disappointed to have failed by a hair's breadth to achieve an absolute majority without the extreme-right National Front. Together with smaller right-wing parties, they obtained only 49 per cent of the vote, with the National Front holding the potentially critical balance of 8.8 per cent.

If the National Front was disappointed that it failed to improve on or even equal its European election score of 11 per cent, it did not show it. Indeed, M Jean-Marie Le Pen, the Front's pugnacious leader, proclaimed Sunday's result as "a great victory" for the party - and not altogether without reason: it was the first time that the extreme-right had made any significant inroads at cantonal level across the country.

If the opposition repeats last Sunday's score in the parliamentary elections next year, it will of course win a landslide victory, provided the same system of majority voting is still in force. But it will not be



M Raymond Barre, former French Prime Minister, voting near Lyons; and Herr Lafontaine and his wife after his Saarland win.



Kohl faces fresh problems

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Herr Oskar Lafontaine's personal achievement in winning the conservative Roman Catholic Saarland for the Social Democrats for the first time since it was reintegrated into West Germany dominated the headlines yesterday, and there was speculation that the increased SPD representation in the Bundestag, the Upper House of Parliament, will cause problems for Chancellor Kohl.

Herr Lafontaine won 49.2 per cent of the vote, holding the Greens to a paltry 2.5 per cent, and gaining an absolute majority of 27 of the state Parliament's 51 seats.

Chancellor Kohl spoke of the

"painful loss" of the small state, but the Government's disappointment is mitigated by the conviction that the triumph of this 41-year-old left-winger will increase the polarization in the opposition SPD between those calling for more radical policies and those intent on moving the party back to the centre to win votes.

The debate will be intensified by the humiliating defeat in West Berlin of Herr Hans Apel, a former SPD Defence Minister, on the party's right wing. In the party's worst result since the war in a traditional left-wing city, he won only 32.4 per cent of the vote, compared

with the handsome 46.6 per cent for Herr Eberhard Diepgen, the CDU Mayor.

Berlin in many ways is a special case, and Herr Apel clearly did not enjoy the full backing of his own party or of the left, many of whom resented yet another outsider being sent in to rescue the SPD.

There is relief in Bonn that a clear result has emerged in Berlin, where a hung Parliament, or one in which the balance was held by the radical Alternative List, as the Greens are known, would have been especially dangerous.

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PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Vietnam Nguyen Chi Thien

By Caroline Moorehead

A poet, who once earned his living giving private lessons in English and French, is in prison in Haiphong. Nguyen Chi Thien has been in jail since 1979. Neither charged nor tried, he is held under a law which gives local administrative bodies, in consultation with the Public Security Bureau, the power to hold "obstinate counter-revolutionary elements who have committed acts detrimental to general security."

Deemed a "professional hooligan", he can be consigned to re-education camps for three-year periods.

He was influenced by the Let-a-Hundred-Flowers-Bloom movement in North Vietnam in the 1950s. Together with two friends he brought out a review called *Viet Nam* (For the People) which earned him two years in a camp. He was released in 1960, the only one of the three to survive.

Right up until 1978, when he was officially pardoned, he spent years in a number of re-education camps for his obstinate anti-communist views. Denied employment on his release he survived by letting out his room to prostitutes, and used part of the money to buy paper and ink.

On April 2, 1979, he went to Hanoi, entered the British Embassy, and left a manuscript of poems and a letter. The poems made their way first to London and later to the United States and have now been published under the title *Flowers from Hell*.

In his letter, he wrote: "It's up to us, the victims, rather than anyone else, to show to the world the incredible sufferings of our people."



Nguyen Chi Thien: Poet let room to prostitutes.

Reprimand for Danish captain

Copenhagen - Magistrates here yesterday found the captain of a Danish naval frigate, which accidentally fired a Harpoon surface-to-surface missile on a holiday camp area north-west of the Danish capital in 1982, guilty of negligence and ordered that he be officially reprimanded. The accident caused forest fires and severe damage to property.

Captain Henning Olsen was in charge of the frigate when the missile went off during a Nato exercise in the Baltic.

Denmark is suing the missile's US manufacturer in connection with the firing.

New Yorker changes hands

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

In spite of the objections of its legendary editor and many of the staff who worship him, the *New Yorker* magazine, America's idiosyncratic fountainhead of fine writing and humour, is being sold to the Newhouse publishing empire.

The magazine's directors have agreed to sell for \$142 million to Mr Samuel Newhouse, who, with his brother, Donald, heads the family business that forms the country's third-largest newspaper chain and owns the Random House publishers and Conde Nast, which publishes, among other magazines, *Vogue* and *Vanity Fair*.

Mr Newhouse has promised that the *New Yorker* will

continue to plough its singular furrow. He will respect its editorial independence.

The *New Yorker* is an extraordinary private community of writers benignly ruled by its shy father-figure editor, Mr William Shawn. By some seemingly mysterious process it puts out a weekly magazine devoted to dry humour in word and cartoon and to a certain excellence and style in lengthy reportage.

The magazine has not changed much over the years. It is, above all, a college of writers who are not expected to submit to the coarse indignity of deadlines. Its editorial atmosphere is almost that of a closed order and editor and writers are notably loyal to each other.

Mr Shawn, who is 77, has

edited for 32 years and is adored as an editor-genius and magnanimous protector and encourager of writers.

He is only the second editor in the magazine's 60 years' history. He succeeded the eccentric, brilliant, raucous and irascible Harold Ross, who, after a flop of a beginning in 1925, filled the magazine with the work of writers like James Thurber, Dorothy Parker, E. B. White, S. J. Perelman and John O'Hara.

In Harold Ross's day the *New Yorker* had a stronger emphasis on humour. It still publishes some of the best cartoons in America.

In the tradition-bound stately home of the *New Yorker*, the Newhouse takeover is an earthquake.

Unita to hand over 22 hostages this week

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

At least 22 foreigners, including three Britons, captured by the Angolan guerrilla movement, Unita, will be handed over this week to representatives of the International Red Cross at the rebels' headquarters at Jamba in the south-eastern Angolan bush.

A Red Cross spokesman in Pretoria said the captives would be flown to Johannesburg, where they were expected to arrive on Thursday. They are said to be in good health, despite a forced 700-mile trek on foot and by lorry to Jamba.

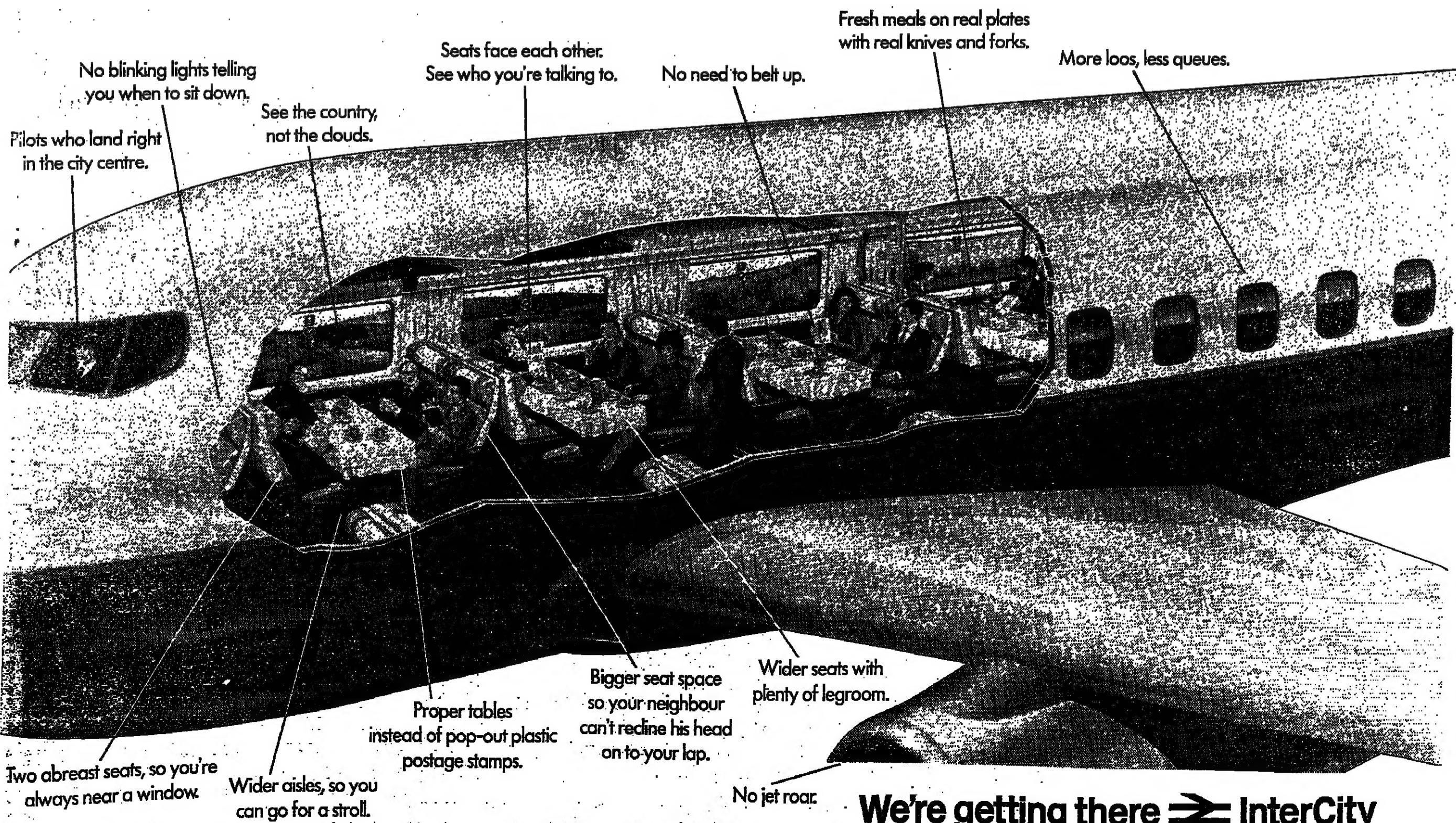
The Britons are Mr Glen Dixon and Mr John McMichael, both engineers, and Mr Paul

Huggins, the loadmaster of an American-owned Hercules aircraft destroyed in a Unita attack on the northern diamond-mining town of Kafunfo where they were captured last December.

Two American members of the aircraft crew and 17 Filipinos are among those to be released, the spokesman said.

The prisoners' release had been planned to take place about three weeks ago but was delayed for reasons that are not yet clear. In February of last year 16 other Britons were seized in Kafunfo and were only released after a British Foreign Office official was sent

How to improve a plane.



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Performance that deserves, and gets, a rear anti-roll bar, ventilated front disc brakes and alloy wheels.

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From Austin Rover

Rover 2000 series prices from £5,998 for the 213, to £7,999 for the 216 Vitesse (shown). Prices correct at time of going to press, excl. number plates and delivery. †D.O.T. figs: Rover 216 S/SE: Simulated Urban Cycle 32.0mpg (8.8l/100Km), Constant 56mpg, 55.8mpg (5.1 l/100Km). Constant 75mpg, 41.9mpg (6.7l/100Km). *Manufacturer's data. Auto.rnline.co.uk 216 V.P. FF and 213 S.

صَدَقْنَا مِنَ الْإِسْلَامِ

Rise of Andropov protégé : View from the White House : Poland looks for new ideas



Road to the Kremlin: The young Chernenko (back row, second from right) with fellow frontier guards on the Chinese border in 1932; at his election in April last year as President and (right) during voting in February this year.



Heir apparent takes the reins

Gorbachov's election sets younger generation on road to Russian reform

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The leaders since Stalin

- 1953 Nikita Sergeyevich Khrushchev (1894-1971) gradually establishes sole supremacy after death of Stalin.
- 1964 Khrushchev replaced as Communist Party leader by Leonid Brezhnev (1906-1982) and as Prime Minister by Alexei Nikolayevich Kosygin (1904-1980); the former quickly becoming pre-eminent.
- 1982 Yuri Vladimirovich Andropov (born 1914).
- 1984 Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko (born 1911).

The election of Mikhail Gorbachov as General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party (though not yet as state president) will mean far-reaching changes in Soviet policy at home and abroad since it places in power a man aged 54 who has obviously been itching to take hold of the reins and steer the cumbersome Soviet state in the direction of efficiency and reform.

As the West saw only four months ago when Gorbachov and his elegant and personable wife, Raisa, made their successful visit to London, he is an urbane and sophisticated man with political flexibility and a relaxed style.

"He is no liberal but the transition to the younger generation, which should have followed the death of Brezhnev, has finally taken place."

Gorbachov was a protégé of the late Yuri Andropov, who had obviously wanted him and not Chernenko to succeed as

General Secretary in February last year. He is a firm advocate of the kind of economic reforms and bureaucratic streamlining which Andropov tried to introduce during his brief tenure. He is now expected to pick up where Andropov left off, and to reform the party structure with an eye to top-level changes at the forthcoming twenty-seventh party congress.

Diplomats noted that, although Khrushchev and Brezhnev had both been in their fifties when they came to power, a recent tradition had grown up whereby general secretaries were elected in their late sixties or early seventies. "Gorbachov has broken the pattern", one said.

A balding man with a purple birthmark splashed across his forehead (airbrushed out in official portraits), Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachov was born on March 2, 1931 in the Stavropol region, an agrarian area in the Russian heartland. According to his official biography, Gorbachov's parents were peasants and he worked on local collective farms as a youth. But he was unusually bright and ambitious and went to Moscow University to study law in 1955.

He is the first Soviet leader to come from a generation that did not take an active part in the Second World War and which received a full education in the

to describe Gorbachov as "our Second General Secretary".

On February 24 when President Chernenko was shown on television casting his vote but was too ill to be seen in person, officials invited foreign correspondents to watch Gorbachov instead, a firm indication that he was the heir apparent and already in charge of day-to-day affairs. He walked confidently into the polling station, basking in the glare of television lights, and exchanged banter with those watching him.

Last Thursday he sat on the platform at the Bolshoi Theatre during a gala marking International Women's Day, sitting between Mr Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Tikhonov, the Prime Minister, relaxed and authoritative in his well-cut suit and gold watch, clearly conscious of the fact that in the ailing President Chernenko's absence he was the unchallenged successor.

Resistance from the old guard

Mr Grigoriy Romanov, aged 62, once considered a formidable rival, was not even present. Mr Viktor Grishin, aged 70, the Moscow city party boss was there but in a fairly low position, reflecting the fact that he is not a central committee secretary as well as a Politburo member.

In one of his recent speeches Gorbachov declared that Russia needed freshness of thought, a bold creative approach to problems and a vigorous struggle "against all that is hypocritical and obsolete". Diplomats said yesterday that Gorbachov would now have a fight on his hands to pursue that approach in the face of resistance from the old guard, but that he would undoubtedly give Russia an image of dynamic leadership after years of ailing gerontocracy.

For the West the emergence of Gorbachov as leader augurs an era of détente, since as Mrs Thatcher so memorably remarked last December, he is a "man we can do business with". A diplomat said: "A stagnating Russia in decline, or a reformed and more purposeful Russia offering young leadership not only for the economy but also for ideology, party appointments and some aspects of foreign affairs, putting him in an almost unassailable position. Towards the end of last year the editor of Pravda went so far as

Russia's hopes, page 14
Leading article, page 15
Obituary, page 16

East-West relations

Bonn seeks a friendly ear

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

his predecessor, and may bring fresh ideas to bear on East-West relations. At Mr Andropov's funeral last year Herr Kohl had lengthy and cordial talks with Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader - the only time he has done so since becoming Chancellor. The two men will undoubtedly use the convenience of the Moscow location, which does not cause any embarrassment to Herr Honecker, to discuss bilateral relations and the chances for an improvement after last autumn's chill.

Herr Kohl may again discuss a possible visit to Bonn by Mr Honecker, but is not likely to push for that if it would cause the East German leader further difficulties at present.

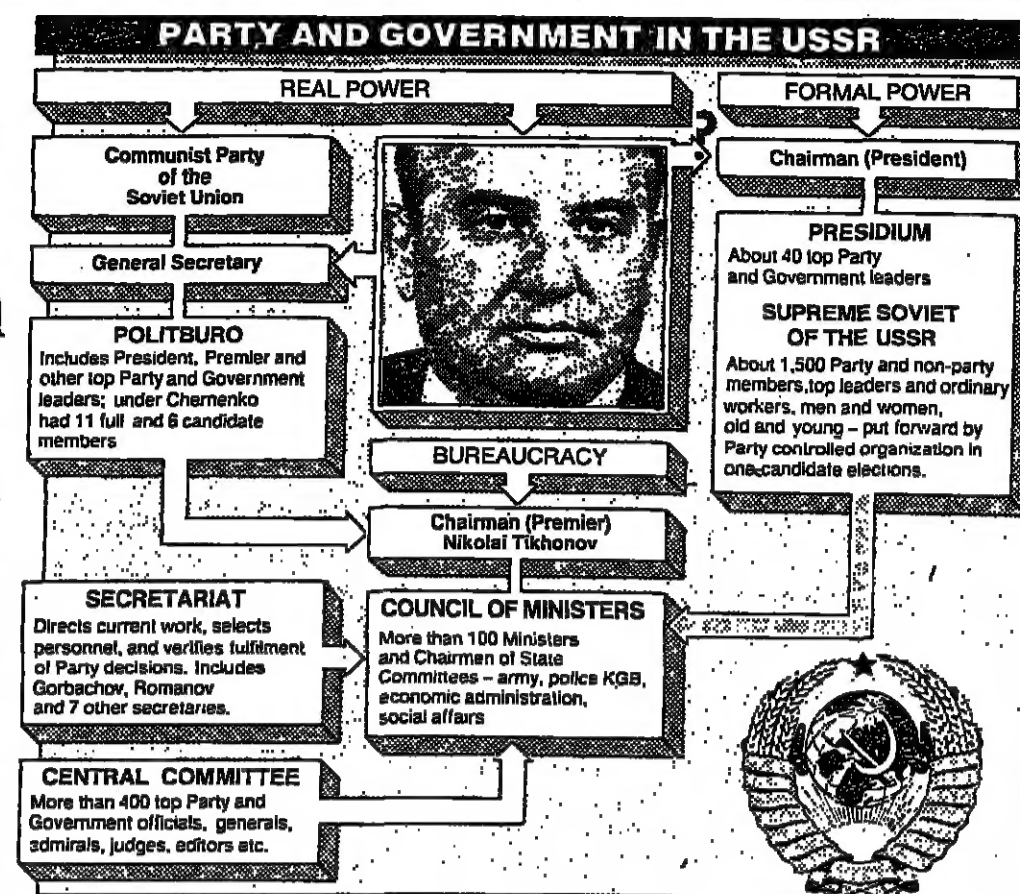
The funeral comes at a time when Bonn has been doing its best to stop the tide of anti-German rhetoric pouring out of Moscow as the Soviet Union prepares to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of VE-Day.

Chancellor Kohl is likely to impress on Mr Gorbachov and Mr Gromyko the need to get

back to a more constructive dialogue after May 8.

Mrs Thatcher gave the Chancellor a thorough briefing on her impressions of Mr Gorbachov after his visit to Britain in December, and Herr Kohl will be eager to convey to the new Soviet leader his country's interest in good political and economic relations.

Germany does not now play the important role as a mediator between Moscow and Washington that it did a few years ago, and the Russians have bluntly told German politicians that Bonn's support for Washington's space defence plans can only harm Soviet-German relations.



In official descriptions of the USSR political structure, the Supreme Soviet is defined as the "highest representative body of the people and the supreme state authority". Representatives chosen by local Party-controlled organizations are elected as the sole candidate for each constituency. There are two houses: a Soviet, or council of the Union, and the Soviet of Nationalities. The Supreme Soviet has a high proportion of non-Russians, non-Party members, young people and women but little real influence. The 1977 Constitution actually recognized the "leading role of the Commu-

nist Party" and it is its Politburo and Central Committee Secretariat - not elected by the population, but composed of carefully selected supporters of the General Secretary and other leaders - which in practice rules the USSR. The Central Committee is composed of about 400 top officials including the members of the executive body, the Council of Ministers, with its chairman Premier Tikhonov; in theory they are elected by the Supreme Soviet. There are no women or young people in the Politburo or Secretariat, and very few women in the Central Committee.

Mr Gorbachov now heads the Party, and is expected to follow the example of the three previous Party leaders by becoming President too, the formal Head of State or Chairman of the Supreme Soviet.

● The USSR is, under the 1977 Constitution, a federal state with 15 Union republics, of equal status, voluntarily linked and with the right to secede. Some Union republics contain Autonomous Republics and Autonomous Regions; and the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic has 10 National Areas.

Monitor's role

How BBC followed the clues

By a Staff Reporter

Five hours after the death of Mr Chernenko the Soviet people were given little indication that all was not well at the Kremlin: Soviet TV was broadcasting *The Merry Widow*.

Five minutes after that broadcast finished a scheduled programme was cancelled; so too was a programme of gypsy music and the Soviet television station closed for the night.

That was the first hint of the Soviet leader's death, and all that was needed by the BBC's monitoring service at Caversham in Berkshire "for the corporate wisdom of the BBC to be sure that Mr Chernenko had died", according to Mrs Linda Ebert, a senior supervisor, on duty last night.

She was on duty 13 months ago when the programme preview was last cancelled. The following evening it was announced that Mr Chernenko's predecessor Mr Andropov had died.

When a programme of comedy was cancelled on Moscow's home service, Radio station Mayak, soon after midnight Mrs Ebert alerted the BBC's London newsroom and subsequent news bulletins started predicting the leader's death.

World leaders paid their condolences yesterday after the death of President Chernenko, praising him for a period of internal stability and improved relations between the superpowers.

The 35-nation European disarmament conference in Stockholm observed a minute's silence and suspended normal business for a day, but reactions were generally muted after several months of speculation

Moscow's allies

Time ripe for a strong hand

From Roger Boyes Warsaw

Black ties at noon, a touch of Bach. Russia's allies in eastern Europe heard the news of the Kremlin passing early on Monday morning through their embassies in Moscow and through Central Committee channels.

The propaganda department heads, always the first to be roused from their beds, talked to the men from protocol and by the midday news tributes, fuller in death than in life, to Comrade Konstantin Chernenko were drafted, approved and delivered.

So rapid is the Kremlin succession that routines have now evolved. There is none of the nervous anxiety that swept the Soviet bloc on the death of Stalin, Brezhnev or even Andropov, only a matter-of-factness, a hope that business will not be interrupted for long.

But in Poland at least one senses the desire for the emergence of a strong, reform orientated, non-interventionist leader in the Kremlin. A Warsaw intellectual speaks not only for himself when he declares of the Soviet hierarchy: "We are beginning to assume them to be dead unless there is evidence to the contrary... but now the time has come for a strong hand that can guide in a new generation. We need innovators not survivors."

Mr Chernenko may well have been only a footnote in history

Book of Condolence

Embassy goes into mourning

By Christine Twomey

A black-edged Soviet flag was flying at half mast outside the Soviet Embassy in Kensington Palace Gardens yesterday morning.

A first secretary at the embassy, Mr Gennady Chabannikov, said all embassy staff were "in a deep state of sorrow" after hearing the news of Mr Chernenko's death. "You can never expect such sad news."

Mr Chabannikov said the usual diplomatic protocol was being followed in this country with a book of condolences, reserved solely for expression of regret at the death of a Soviet President, being opened this morning at 10am.

He would not comment on whether the Soviet ambassador to Britain would fly to Moscow for the funeral or say whether any private announcements of Mr Chernenko's death had been made to Mrs Thatcher.

Mr Chabannikov then issued the following statement: "Yesterday on the 11th March at 7.20pm the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, the President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviets K. U. Chernenko passed away after a serious illness. The book of condolences will be opened at the embassy from 10am to 6pm on the 12th and 13th March."

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Bush criticizes warring Ethiopian factions for depriving starving of aid

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

A sharp rebuke to the warring factions in Ethiopia was delivered by Mr George Bush, US Vice-President, speaking at yesterday's session of the UN conference on the emergency in Africa. Pointing out that about eight million people in Ethiopia were afflicted by starvation and disaster, he said that it was impossible to accept silence on the fact that perhaps 2.5 million of them in the northern area of the country were being deprived of aid.

"All concerned must put aside politics to bring relief to those in need", he said, addressing himself to the Ethiopian Government and to the successionist movement in Eritrea and Tigre.

Just as threatened populations could not eat ideology, they also could not sustain themselves on vague pledges. Much more had to be done in coordinating commitments, so that food was delivered on schedule from where it was grown to where it was needed.

The US, as it did last year, would meet half of the emerg-

ency food requirements, estimated at three million tonnes for 20 countries. Its total food and drought assistance this year would amount to more than \$1 billion.

In the longer term, he was heartened by pragmatic developments such as the new strain of drought-resistant sorghum in the Sudan, increasing yield by 150 per cent. On desertification, he recalled that in the 1930s when the US central plains experienced dust-bowl conditions similar to areas of the Sahel today, "farmers lived in a half-hill world beneath the dust clouds of the expanding desert".

People said the land would never again produce crops. They had been wrong. An important part of the food America was now supplying came from what was once the dust bowl. With more research, Africa, too, could reclaim its once-productive land.

President Julius Nyerere, of Tanzania, chairman of the Organization of African Unity, expressed the thanks of the "voiceless millions" in Africa

for help already provided by peoples and governments.

He hoped that a significant precedent had been established through cooperation in Ethiopia between various countries, including the US, UK and the Soviet Union. Perhaps greater international cooperation for peace and development could come out of Africa's misery of hunger and starvation.

He underlined how essential it was to look beyond the emergency and provide development assistance, particularly in food production, so that the continent could remove its extreme vulnerability to natural disasters.

The same point was made by Señor Pérez de Cuellar, UN Secretary General, who said that only by sustainable future development could Africa's peoples build "new lives of dignity and hope".

The urgency of that imperative was underlined by the fact that, at today's growth rate, Africa would by the end of the century have to feed an extra 324 million people.



On the bridge: Israeli soldiers crossing the Qasmieh bridge over the Litani river in southern Lebanon yesterday after patrolling north of it in search of guerrillas.

Menace of a Shin Bet 'social visit'

From Robert Fisk, Harif, southern Lebanon

The Israeli Shin Bet intelligence commander in the Shia Muslim village of Harif uses the nom de guerre of "Abu Shawki". Everyone knows Abu Shawki. He is a blond-haired Israeli, bespectacled, and in mid-thirties, who runs the Shin Bet office where the Irish

United Nations troops say they often see civilians being hooded before interrogation.

The hoods worry the villagers of Harif, but not as much as Abu Shawki's social calls on the little shops in the village's scruffy main street.

Last week, his Mercedes pulled up outside a small souvenir shop where Wafiq Daqiq sells cedar tree flags and his hand-carved wooden camels to Irish and Dutch UN troops.

It was three in the afternoon, and Abu Shawki came ac-

companied. His plain-clothes Israeli colleague stood in the door with a gun while the Irish soldiers watched from outside.

According to a Lebanese man in the shop - anonymity is obligatory in places like Harif these days - Abu Shawki looked toward Daqiq and said: "Hey you, come here. What's your name?" Daqiq was ordered to present himself at the Shin Bet office at 5.30 and he did as he was told.

He was not hooded when he went there. He was, according to relatives and the UN, simply deprived of his passport by the Israelis and ordered to collect his wife and daughter and his brother's wife and leave Harif within 24 hours.

The Israelis even took his UN identification pass as a UN interpreter - the Irish have still

not had it returned to them by Shin Bet in spite of repeated requests - and so Wafiq Daqiq and his family were forced to leave Harif next morning for Beirut without even the means to prove their own identity.

His brother-in-law also received his marching orders from the Israelis and left the same day.

In the innocent confines of the Irish Army's mess at Tibnin - a wooden room - commandant Brian McEvitt says that the Israelis have "directly asked people to leave the area", a diplomatic way of expressing the Irish contingent's real fear that the Israelis intend to depopulate parts of southern Lebanon of its young men before setting up a new security zone along the Israeli border.

In some cases - in the Shia homes of Bent Jbail, for example - pro-Israeli Lebanese militiamen have demanded 40 Lebanese pounds a month from every man, woman and child if they wish to stay.

Numerous villagers and Irish UN officers confirm that three prominent Lebanese gunmen working for the Israelis - Ali Khalil, Ahmed Chibli and Ali Hashem - have visited Yatar and told the people there that they must pay 150,000 Lebanese pounds (about £7,000) if they do not want their village destroyed.

If this campaign against Yatar and Harif and other villages in southern Lebanon appears haphazard, it makes a lot more sense when one realizes that Israel's new front line is likely to run through the very centre of the Irish Army's zone.

The Israelis have denied any such idea to the Department of Foreign Affairs in Dublin; but their denial is incorrect.

Israeli reconnaissance patrols, occasionally losing their way around Tibnin, are now specifically searching for locations for new military bases on the hills outside Harif.

The final choice has yet to be made. But Wafiq Daqiq and his family will be far away when they learn the Israeli decision.

Fears for the future of Greece

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, the conservative opposition leader, accused the ruling Greek socialist yesterday of engineering a constitutional crisis to get rid of President Karamanlis, delay parliamentary elections, and gradually impose a totalitarian constitution in Greece.

"The only way to protect democracy, safeguard normal developments, and preserve the unity of the Greek people is to go to immediate elections," Mr Mitsotakis said.

His party, New Democracy, would do all in its power not to exacerbate an already explosive situation. He told a press conference, however, that in the absence of President Karamanlis, who acted as a national guarantee, he would demand foolproof safeguards that the elections would be fair.

Mr Karamanlis's presence had also been a guarantee for Greece's direction in foreign affairs, he said. Now too many question marks hovered, especially about the Greek economy, which was headed for catastrophe. He said that the country could not withstand such uncertainty for long.

He urged the Government to call off the procedure for the presidential election, which for technical reasons was postponed until March 17, and to hold parliamentary elections on May 5. "Let the next parliament elect the president," he said.

President Karamanlis resigned suddenly on Sunday to protest against the socialist Government's constitutional reforms which would make Greek presidents largely ceremonial figures.

Almost at the same time the proposed constitutional reforms were being tabled in Parliament. Mr Mitsotakis said they reminded him of the machinations of Adolf Hitler in 1933.

The New Democracy leader singled out the socialist's intention to make amendments to the constitution easier by an enhanced majority in one parliament rather than across two parliamentary terms.

He said: "This would create a constitutional uncertainty leading to a perpetual revolution in which the constitutional order would be determined by the government which controls the majority. It could easily convert Greece into a totalitarian state."

Leading article, page 15

Red tape strangles aid in Sudan

From Michael Prest, Geneva

A plethora of agencies anxious to help Sudan tackle its multiple refugee, famine and drought crises is testing the country's creaky administration to the limit.

Official distinctions between these different aspects of the tragedy overtaking Sudan are breaking down, causing demarcation disputes between agencies, and between agencies and the Government.

In this dusty, dilapidated frontier town in the far west of Sudan, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the body which is supposed to coordinate relief for refugees from outside Sudan, has found itself providing for a camp half of whose inhabitants are local Sudanese.

Asirne camp, which is 30 minutes' drive by landrover across rough country from Geneva, holds about 30,000 people. Another 100 at least arrive daily.

Whole villages in the region have been abandoned as thousands drift south in search of food and water. Mr Andrew

Cowley, the local UNHCR field officer, says that 3,000 extra people materialize at Asirne when food is distributed, in principle once a week.

In those villages which remain inhabited, relief workers have found that more than half the population is suffering from malnutrition. At Asirne 193 children are receiving special supplementary feeding.

Mr Cowley believes that nearer 300 children should in fact be receiving supplementary food.

But whose responsibility is it to feed the villagers? UNHCR, working in conjunction with the Sudan Commissioner for Refugees, is in a quandary. It cannot ignore this need, yet strictly speaking the Sudanese are not in charge.

The Sudan Commissioner for Refugees, Mr Abdel Magid Beshir Al-Ahmedi, does not head a department able to coordinate the approximately 30 foreign agencies active in this country.

Cool welcome for Mubarak proposal

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt meets President Reagan today in the slim hope of persuading the United States to take an early, direct and active role in Middle East diplomacy. The US is cool towards President Mubarak's principal proposal, that the Reagan Administration should invite a Jordanian-Palestinian del-

egation to Washington to discuss peace moves in the Middle East. US officials say that the Administration will proceed cautiously until there appears to be some real prospect of Jordan beginning direct talks with Israel on Palestinian autonomy.

President Mubarak is unlikely to get a sympathetic

hearing when he seeks \$1.6 billion in aid in addition to the planned totals for the financial years 1985 and 1986.

Members of Congress of both parties have signed a resolution, or written personally to President Reagan, complaining about Egyptian policies.

Store bombs seen as a prank

Bonn (Reuters) - The bombing of a Dortmund department store last week in which nine people were injured was not the work of political extremists, the West German Interior Ministry said.

Police holding four men aged between 18 and 24 on suspicion of planting the bomb were satisfied the attack was not carried out by terrorists of the left or the right, a spokesman said. He told a news conference that investigators were still trying to establish the motive for the crime.

The mass-circulation newspaper *Bild* quoted security sources as saying the explosion in the Hertie chain store "was probably a dumb, childish prank".

Townships riots claim six lives

Johannesburg (Reuters) - Six black people died, two of them in a gun battle with police, during a weekend of rioting and arson in South African townships, police said.

At least 79 people were arrested around the country with the worst violence erupting at two townships in the Eastern Cape province, Tinas and Kwanobuhle.

Police toll

Peking (Reuters) - At least 104 policemen have been killed in the past 18 months during China's crackdown on crime, according to a Government minister. In a speech the deputy Public Security Minister, Mr Hu Zhiqiang, gave no details of how the policemen died, but he revealed that 1,022 officers were injured in the drive.

Victims' fury

San Antonio, Chile (AFP) - Police dispersed 1,500 earthquake victims with tear gas here when they began shouting complaints about the slow arrival of relief supplies. Thousands of people here still lacking shelter seven days after the quake, which practically flattened this port and killed 18 inhabitants.

Peru massacre

Lima (AFP) - Two mass graves containing bodies of 30 Indian peasants who had been shot were found near Huanta, 200 miles east-south-east of here, police said. Vultures attracted investigators to the scene, and terrified peasants living nearby said the bodies had been buried at night two weeks ago presumably by Maoist guerrillas.

Chemical warfare initiative

Britain takes lead in Geneva

By Henry Stanhope

Britain will contribute to arms control today in Geneva by launching an initiative at the long-running talks on chemical weapons.

Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, will introduce a series of proposals on verification procedures - still the main obstacle preventing agreement.

Mr George Bush, the US vice-presidential, tabled a draft American treaty at the Geneva conference on disarmament a year ago. Since then, Britain has been prominent among other Western powers in trying to put flesh on the bones, as one source put it.

Several governments have been seeking a chemical weapons ban since the end of the

last century. After the gas attacks of the First World War the Geneva Protocol of 1925 was signed.

However, the protocol only prohibits use of chemical munitions only in wartime, leaving countries free to produce and stockpile them out of mutual distrust. A comprehensive treaty outlawing microbiological, or germ weapons was signed in 1972. Since then East and West have concentrated upon reaching a similar settlement on chemical warfare.

Britain destroyed all its chemical weapons in the 1950s. The US has large stockpiles in Europe and at home but has not produced any since 1969.

However, the Soviet Union has not only continued to

manufacture and store large stocks but has specially-assigned troops who apparently stimulate their use on exercises.

Verification remains the biggest difficulty because modern nerve gases so resemble chemicals used in industrial plants for products like pesticides, that cheating would be all too easy without independent on-site inspection.

Until now the Soviet Union has steadfastly refused to countenance such an idea. But recently there have been signs of a change of heart - notably its decision to sign an agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency which would allow limited inspection of nuclear power plants.

Spectrum, page 12

Call to Europe's peace groups

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

An attempt is being made to forge new links between the growing peace movements in Eastern Europe and their Western colleagues, through an appeal which is published for the first time today.

But the determination of protesters in the Eastern bloc to link their campaign against nuclear weapons with a call for political reform at home, is threatening to alienate left-wing peaceworkers in the West.

The so-called Prague Appeal has been sponsored by Charter 77, the Czech human rights organization - which has submitted it for signature by similar groups in Hungary, Poland and East Germany.

But members of the organization have already reported cases of extreme harassment by East European authorities who have subjected those behind the appeal to interrogation and threats in recent weeks.

Now the appeal, which has been signed by 45 people, mainly from the Charter organization, will be submitted to the annual conference in Amsterdam next July of the European Nuclear Disarmament movement.

Extracts from the appeal, which is written in the form of an open letter to the July conference, are being printed by *The Times* with the co-operation of the Palach Press Agency.

In a separate initiative to mark International Women's Day last week, women from East Germany and Czechoslovakia joined colleagues from Britain, Italy and West Germany in condemning both Soviet and American nuclear weapons and calling for "détente from below."

The Prague Appeal, after referring to the divisions in Europe since the Second World War and says "our common hope lies in overcoming this division."

"The Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and its Final Act signed in Helsinki are like the subsequent talks and the Final Document of Madrid follow-up conference, not just an acknowledgement of the status quo, but also constitute a programme of European and Euro-American cooperation..."

"The requirement that governments should fulfil all their undertakings and obli-

gations has not been made full use of by the peace movement."

It continues: A democratic and sovereign Europe is inconceivable so long as individual citizens, groups of citizens or nations are denied the right to take part in decisions affecting not only their everyday lives but also their very survival. Within a framework of cooperation and dialogue among all those who genuinely seek to overcome the present dangerous situation, it should be possible to come forward with different disarmament initiatives and proposals: the creation of nuclear-free and neutral zones, the encouragement of relations between individuals, groups and states, support for agreements on non-aggression as well as the renunciation of the use of force or nuclear weapons, and finally regional treaties of all kinds, including for example rapprochement between the EEC and the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. With this framework citizens should be able to campaign against the insensitive treatment of the environment and, taking governments at their word, analyse government policies and their effects. In short it is necessary to support actions by individuals, groups and governments seeking the rapprochement and free association of European nations while rejecting any measures which might postpone or thwart the achievement of this ideal.

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A SMALL UNMANNED CARRIER GOES INTO A DARK WAREHOUSE. IT UNLOADS AT ONE SHELF. IT THEN GETS AN ORDER TO PICK UP A BOX AT ANOTHER STATION. IT STOPS ON ITS WAY TO LET OTHER CARRIERS PASS. IT FINDS THE STATION, PICKS UP THE BOX, TELLS THE COMPUTER TO REGISTER THE NEW STOCK SITUATION. IT GOES OUT INTO THE DAYLIGHT. IT DELIVERS THE BOX TO A TRUCK AT A LOADING BAY. WHEN IT PASSES THE DOORWAY IT CHARGES ITS ELECTRICAL BATTERIES THROUGH A CABLE.

AFTER THE JOB IS DONE, IT STOPS AND WAITS FOR A NEW ORDER. IT GOES 24 HOURS A DAY. IT NEVER FORGETS TO REGISTER WHAT IT IS DOING. IT IS A CARRIER FROM AUTOCARRIER SYSTEMS, A COMPANY IN THE VOLVO GROUP.

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THE ARTS

Galleries: John Russell Taylor reviews a British variety

Conflicting pulls of recognition

One of the greatest problems for an artist who achieves any reputation and following at all must be to strike a happy balance between recognisable consistency and noticeable development. Admirers tire of the same old thing, but if there is not enough (does he not get tired of doing the same old thing?). Through the years, William Scott has trodden very delicately the fine line between the two complaints.

Though it must have occurred to even Scott's most enthusiastic supporters to wonder from time to time why he does not get bored with painting the same old shapes of frying-pans and eggs and simple kitchen pots, the little informal retrospective at Gimpel Fils until March 30, which spans the years from 1939 right up to date (*White Pan and Yellow Bowl with Four Eggs*, 1984), does indicate an impressive single-mindedness along with a clear determination to extract the maximum variety from a small range of visual motifs, which includes also the occasional expressive nude and slips happily over into abstraction and back without any noticeable grinding of gears. If after seeing the show, you still want to know why he has chosen these particular motifs, illumination is to be found in the feature film *Every Picture Tells a Story*, opening in a couple of weeks at the Mimmia. Directed by William Scott's son James, it suffers from a fatal indecision between the claims of documentary and those of drama, but its account of the elder Scott's hard childhood at least helps us to understand how these first few years could have provided material for a whole lifetime's painting.

It was the fortune and misfortune of John Bratby to achieve fame early with a very specific kind of painting, that which got him the reputation in the mid-Fifties as the leader of an alleged "kitchen sink school". The manner could easily slip into a mannerism, and quite often, in later years, it did. After his moment of cinematic notoriety standing in for Gully Jimson in the film of *The Horse's Mouth*, he took Jimson's apocalyptic subject-matter into his own repertoire, but still he was somehow expected to keep coming up with highly coloured, rather expressionistic pictures of ugly scenes from suburban domestic



An extraordinary feeling for dazzling white light off a silver sea in John Wonnacott's *The Upraised Boat* (1981-85)

life, varied with the occasional flower from a north London garden. His erratic later course seems to have been guided by the balancing temptations of giving in with a shrug or alarming the public by suddenly doing something completely different.

His latest show, at the Thackeray Gallery off Kensington Square until March 22, is in the second category, but should please everybody, in that it brings Bratby's familiar swirling, paint-loaded technique to bear on a subject which can well stand some radical redefinition: Venice. Apparently Bratby had never visited Venice before 1982, and the canvases of a frosty, snowbound or flooded city are full of almost palpable creative excitement, while the drawings of carnival figures ring the changes on an over-familiar theme with perfect lack of self-consciousness. Bratby is Bratby still, and the encounter of the old Bratby with a new locale could hardly be more satisfactory for both.

Unlike as they are, John Hoyland and John Wonnacott have more things in common than their emergence in the early Sixties. As we can see from the shows of their latest work at Waddington and Marlborough Fine Art respectively (Hoyland until March 30, Wonnacott until April 12), they both raise the question of consistency without monotony. Hoyland has for some years been painting the same splotchy, highly-coloured abstracts, which seem to be flung on to the canvas at a rate, if we take the labels literally, of about one a day, and go in rough cycles devoted to various combinations of particular shapes. This time the compositions are all of a circle within a square, and within the circle float triangles, circles and looser rounded shapes which might, for the sake of argument, be bananas or aubergines on a plate. Since there seems to be very little in these paintings other than the sheer physical response of the painter to colour, they depend heavily for their effect on how the spectator responds to his response. For myself I find them rather too coarse and casual in their effect — is that really all there is? — but I would not know how to argue with those who think them wonderful.

John Wonnacott, in contrast, is a minutely representational painter, concentrating to the point of obsession on the views from the window of his studio

overlooking a rather flat and dreary part of the Thames Estuary. His last show at Marlborough struck me as proficient but rather dreary. Either I have softened or he has brightened, for the new show has moments of real magic. Only, oddly enough, when he stays close to home: the two ambitious pictures set in Norwich, where he teaches, are photorealistic in all the less appealing senses of the term. But when he is rendering the changes of light and weather across the sandy flats he has an extraordinary feeling for that very English sort of glaring greyness or the flattening effect of dusty sunlight at mid-afternoon. I cannot remember seeing dazzling white light off a silver sea better caught than in *The Upraised Boat*, and the transitory effect of snow in one of the *Estuary II* window pictures is a total delight. Perhaps Wonnacott's art never lifts the imagination, but it certainly gives the mind a run for its money.

Other British painters on show at the moment who practise something akin to photorealism include David Evans, at the Mercury Gallery until March 23, and David Hepher, at Angela Flowers until Saturday. Both build on familiar styles and materials in their new shows. The pictures in David Evans's more often than not include pictures within them — paintings or photographs in frames hanging on the walls over which the light from a lamp or an unseen window so delicately and precisely plays. Others are slightly surrealist

and bright colours, rather First-Russian-Ballet-Period in their intense yet decorative use of fairytale symbols. But he also, with his dark-toned, turbulent canvases from which at times human figures almost emerge, seems like someone well worth watching.

An influence of Abstract Expressionism is also apparent in the work of Roy Oxley at the Odette Gilbert Gallery until April 6. But his work is bright and breezy, full of colour and light: the scribbly sketches of glasses and dishes and food and drink are imposed with apparent arbitrariness on light-toned background washes of mostly pastel colour, and the results, using rather the same basic materials as the new Hoylands, are full of grace and charm and individuality.

A few doors down Cork Street, at Quinton Green until March 30, are the equally light, delicate and personal paintings of Roy Turlingham, but instead of Oxley's buoyancy they have a monumental immobility, as of ancient murals (or perhaps Deco wallpaper) just about to crumble from the wall. Turlingham was an industrial designer before becoming a fulltime painter, and it shows in his taste for repeated patterns of birds and fish and branches, but he manages to make them into something perfectly painterly and self-justifying. Both the adjacent Roys are, in their different ways, unashamedly decorative painters; one would be happy to live with the work of either, and that is more than you can say of many sterner but less accomplished artists today.

Television

Outlines of a vanished life

In *From an Immigrant's Notebook*, Arena (BBC 2) provided certain pictures from the life of Karen Blizzen — not the least extraordinary of which were those of her in old age, emaciated from the syphilis she had once contracted from her husband, as light and as frail as a dead wasp on a window-sill. And all her life she had been trying to get out.

She was a kind of cultural tourist: in her twenties she left Denmark and sailed for Africa, the continent which would one day be the setting for her most famous book, *Voluntary Exiles*, particularly when they carry within them the perceptions of a writer, are generally considered to be courageous and even noble creatures; but this is

not necessarily the case. If one were to judge from the pictures in last night's documentary, she created within her house a little Denmark among the Masai; and, more importantly, her relationship to the Africans was coloured by the undoubted imperiousness of her nature. Although she celebrated the wisdom of the natives, her social attitude to them seems to have been positively feudal: one acquaintance described her life as "eighteenth-century" in manner.

Her Africa was in that sense a fantasy, for she found, in the contemplation of its landscape and its people a metaphor for her emotional condition: here was the "freedom" she lacked elsewhere, and the "purity"

which she had lost. One cannot help but feel that her accounts of the Masai, for example, are determined by the nature of her own obsessions. In her imaginative life, also, she was feudal and imperious, her own conception of the world being one of a vanished life, a life which she had lost. One cannot help but feel that her accounts of the Masai, for example, are determined by the nature of her own obsessions. In her imaginative life, also, she was feudal and imperious, her own conception of the world being one of a vanished life, a life which she had lost.

Peter Ackroyd

Concerts

Warm and tireless advocacy

LSO/Groves Barbican

Birthday concerts are liable to be as much hard work as celebration for the artists concerned, and I am sure Sir Charles Groves would not have wished it otherwise when he chose the programme for his own seventieth birthday on Sunday. The two works exemplified much of his career, especially the influential years he gave to the service of music when he was based successfully in Manchester, Bournemouth and Liverpool.

There will be many in those careers and round about them who introduced to the great works of the British repertoire through his warm and tireless advocacy, such as he brought once more on this occasion to the London Symphony Orchestra in the Ritual Dances from Sir Michael Tippett's opera *The Midsummer Marriage*.

And since there were soloists and chorus on hand for Beethoven, what better than to involve them in the fourth of Tippett's dances, "Fire in Summer"? It thereby became the complete relevant scene from the opera, with Mark and Jennifer in their transfigured duet of symbolic union, while the two low-voiced Ancients invoked wonder and rejoicing, as well they might for music of such verdant splendour and poetry, both delicately and decisively performed.

When it came to Beethoven, Sir Charles settled for a fairly leisureed performance, less affected than some, but sharing a prevalent trend among British conductors for deliberate rhythms and speeds intended to point the serious character of the first three non-vocal move-



Sir Charles Groves: an energetic birthday

ments. The danger is that phrasing will become prosaic, which was not altogether avoided on this occasion, among the strings in particular. The chorus, however, even though cramped by the dimensions of this hall, rose magnificently to the challenge after the bass soloist had begun several pages too soon to summon them to sing their joy. Donald McIntyre subsequently brought a firm foundation to the solo quartet, in which Elaine Woods, Penelope Walker, and John Nicholson combined to generate a lyric effect as they had in the Tippett solos earlier.

Noel Goodwin

Music Projects London/Bernas Almeida Theatre

The young French composer Pascal Dusapin does not write what you might call subtle music. Not, anyway, on the evidence of the four brief pieces of his heard in this concert, one of two grouped together as

"New Images of Sound: France". Yet, though his manner commands attention through simple aggression, underneath the surface drama there seemed here to be little of real substance, even given the fervish commitment of the playing of Music Projects/London under Richard Bona. Perhaps Dusapin might think that that does not matter, since, as the clarinetist Roger Heaton said before his tenaciously virtuosic performance of a work called *Incisa*, he apparently finds no need even to make his titles relevant to the music. Accordingly, the manic screaming in *L'Homme aux lents* for two sopranos (Sue Bisset and Sue Boppre) and the endless, the Varese-like series of *Musique captive* for mixed wind nonet and the overt pictorialism of *Incisa* for solo cello (Alan Brett), inspired by images flashing past during a night-time car ride, all added up to a series of inconsequential sketches.

One was more inclined to be sympathetically disposed towards the other young French composer whose music was being heard in London for the first time, Michael Levinas's *Arts et Théâtres* for flute (Kate Lucas) subtitled "La Chanson de souffler" uses the sounds of breath, inhaled as well as exhaled. But this is no gimmick, for the work is quietly compelling, beguiling the listener by its instinctive feel for the beautiful qualities of the solo instrument.

To end, the British premiere of a work by a composer whose language contains abundant verve and eloquence, Iannis Xenakis's intense *Khalper* (1983), for brass quintet, a somewhat overpowered vibrato and well-tuned drums, its textures a dizzying swirl of contrasts, its path both cogent and coherent.

Stephen Pettitt

Messiah

Deutsche Oper, Berlin

Some years ago, in a whimsical essay, Leonard Bernstein invented a proposal to make a musical out of Burton's *Anatomy of Melancholy*. The degree of aesthetic logic involved in that undertaking cropped up in my thoughts while watching Handel's *Messiah* mounted — dare I say violated? — on the stage of the Deutsche Oper, Berlin, by Achim Freyer and Urs Troller, in full view of a capacity audience, with no less a Handel expert than Christopher Hogwood in charge of the accompanying music.

Freyer and Troller have not attempted to instil much stage action into this production, choosing instead to synchronize the dead old music with a succession

Music in Germany

of tableaux more or less vivants. As an acting area, they constructed a sharply canted square with one corner pointing down into the orchestra pit. Until the end of the evening, a vast scrim separates the performers from their audience.

Those responsible for this version have divided the oratorio into seven parts: Prologue, The Waste Land ("exile, darkness, redemption, despair, hope, solitude, anxiety"), The Son of Man ("blood, love, rebirth, reconciliation, murder"), The Lonely God ("grief, humiliation, scorn, disgrace, indifference"), Resurrection ("victory, power, vengeance"), This is My Flesh ("body, soul, devotion, sin, flesh, word") and Day of Judgement.

But what has happened, one wonders, to the work which Handel himself, and his contemporaries, regarded as an entertainment? Parts of the Berlin evening do entertain, but in a manner I doubt that

Handel intended. During the "And the Glory of the Lord" chorus, extras on stage bob up and down from holes in the floor in a manner unfortunately reminiscent of Arizona prairie dogs in a Walt Disney nature film. The lady who sings "I Know that my Redeemer Liveth" remains sunk into the stage up to her shoulders, à la Beckett, wearing a hat sprouting tail, flowering plants.

Identifying soloists in individual numbers presents a problem, for each solo part in any number, generally speaking, gets allotted to a different singer, billed as the Black Angel, The Sword Angel, The Woman in the Red Coat, etc. A Deutsche Oper house bulletin says: "As far as we know, no theatre up to now has dared to stage *Messiah*. With a little luck, no other will soon again."

Paul Moor

Rock

Grandmaster Melle Mel Oxford Polytechnic

"When you leave the ghetto, you gotta figure a way of walking out in style," drawled the lean Grandmaster of New York rap, Melle Mel. So saying, he led the audience through a series of loosely co-ordinated walking dance steps — backwards, forwards, sideways, SLIDE! — so that the crowd resembled an undisciplined though exuberant aerobics class.

Style was certainly the keynote to this visit of Melle Mel's troupe of funk, Bronx hustlers to the city of dreaming spires. Dressed in a variety of outlandish outfits, they appeared like strange urban folk-heroes from an alien culture, garish and preened in ceaseless movements of lithe grace. For the first three numbers the crude vocalese of the five front-liners and Melle Mel was embellished only by the implacable back-beat of the drummer Rick Harrison and occasional doodlings from the turntables of DJ Grandmaster Disco B.

The Furious Five sang, chanted, danced and posed while Melle Mel's fluent stream of modern patois poetry dominated band and audience. Carrying a black, silver-headed cane, dressed in a long black coat and with white hat and long black hair framing his darkly chiselled features, the Grandmaster wove the sing-song words into rhythmic spells. As variously the Furious Five picked up instruments, and the occasional synthesizer or bass line entered the field, the mood became diffused but the streetwise images of borderline life in the tenement slums of New York were rarely abandoned.

"It's like a jungle sometimes, it makes me wonder/ How I keep from going under," declaimed Melle Mel in "The Message" from his hit from 1982. Notwithstanding their tough, cool and aggressive mien, the ultimate message was a strongly moral one: to live in peace with one another and above all to keep off drugs. Their recent hit, the plangently anti-drug plea "White Lines (Don't Do It)", was played twice and, although a curious-looking advertisement for this kind of probity, Melle Mel even took the opportunity to extend his warnings to encompass the dangers of excessive alcohol consumption.

David Sinclair

Japanese Ceramics, Prints & Works of Art Tuesday, 12 March at 10.30 a.m. & 2.30 p.m., King Street. Prints, screens, sword fittings, ceramics, lacquer, furniture and bronzes make up a varied and interesting group of objects being offered today. The sale's highlight is expected to be a superb pair of ornate, lacquered Edo-period lacquered black lacquered Buddhist shrine doors in a South Kensington hotel lobby should make in the region of £5,000 to £6,000. *Entries for next sale close 22 March.*

Stamps: British Africa & British Asia Tuesday & Wednesday, 12 & 13 March at 10.30 a.m. & 2.30 p.m. both days, 47 Duke Street, SW1. A postcard from Alan Cobden on his 1925 London-Cairo-Cape Town flight is the main attraction of today's sale of British Africa, together with a series of stamps printed by missionaries in Uganda in the 1890s. Tomorrow's sale of British Asia includes a section from the life-long study of Burma made by Gerald Davis, with Indian stamps used in Burma, and even earlier letters before stamps were used, with letters from a naval officer who had been engaged in suppressing pirates in the area in 1845-46.

Jewellery Wednesday, 13 March at 11 a.m., King Street. From modestly estimated Victorian and Art Nouveau pieces to fine-coloured stones and an impressively large array of diamonds, this sale will surely offer attractions to all tastes and pockets. Do not miss looking at the two diamond rings each over 10 carats and an Indian diamond collet necklace being sold by a member of a European Royal Family and estimated at £20,000 to £25,000. *Entries for next sale close 22 April.*

Netzuke, Ofime, Inro & Okimono Wednesday, 13 March at 11 a.m., 2.30 p.m. & 5 p.m., King Street. Wood netsuke in this varied and interesting sale include a wild boar, signed Mitsunaga, a war in a rotten point, and many other examples of this charming art-form. In the afternoon there is a superbly carved set of 15 paired bonwood netsuke carved in netsuke style for the musical drama *Gogoku*. *Entries for next sale close 6 May.*

Orders, Decorations & Campaign Medals Thursday, 14 March at 11 a.m., King Street. An important collection of awards to the R.A.F. from the medals to this sale. A rare George Cross awarded in 1940 to Squadron Leader E. D. Parker together with his D.F.C. and campaign medals is noteworthy (£4,000 to £5,000). Also of great interest is the D.S.O. and D.F.C. group to Battle of Britain Ace, Wing Commander M. L. Robinson (£2,000 to £2,400). The main attraction is the G.C. awarded posthumously in 1971 to Sergeant M. Willets, 3rd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, one of only three for Northern Ireland (£10,000 to £12,000). *Entries for next sale close 13 May.*

Claret & White Bordeaux Thursday, 14 March at 11 a.m., King Street. A wide variety of claret and white Bordeaux of the great 1961 vintage and a range of 1970s which are now approaching perfection for drinking. There are particularly good stocks of first growths and around 300 cases of excellent Chateau of the desirable 1978 vintage, which currently look to be excellent value. The sale closes with a small selection of fine Sauternes. *Entries for next sale close 18 March.*

Modern British & Irish Paintings, Drawings & Sculpture Friday, 15 March at 11 a.m. & 2.30 p.m., King Street. Modern British & Irish Paintings, Drawings & Sculpture. Monday, 18 March at 5 p.m., South Kensington. The first sale reflects strong new trends in the Modern British Picture market. At one end of the spectrum comes Frank Bourdillon's *Jubilee Hat* (£30,000 to £50,000), a marvellous example of the Newlyn School of painting, at the other John Bratby's large *Group of Painters* (£700 to £1,000) of the notorious 1950s Kitchen Sink School. In between we have fine examples of the Victorian and English Surrealist Schools with works by Eileen Agar, Spencer Tunney and Armstrong, Mannings, always a strong seller, is represented by 25 works ranging in estimate from £300 to £50,000. *Entries for next sale close 5 April.* The South Kensington sale, as well as covering a wide range of "regulars" also includes two large groups of works by Adrian Hill (known for his writing and television work in the 1950s and 1960s) and Alfred Wolcott.

British Pottery & Porcelain, 19th Century European Ceramics: Monday, 18 March at 10.30 a.m. & 2.30 p.m., King Street. Among the most beautiful objects produced during the early years of English porcelain manufacture were the tureens for desert. Though in conception generally derived from Meissen, the Chelsea arched tureens with flesh finials (£5,000 to £7,000) would seem to be a solely Chelsea creation. Dating from 1755, these were recorded in a mid-century catalogue of that date. Perhaps more remarkable is a mid-century tureen of similar date, from the Staffordshire factory of Longton Hall, vibrantly coloured in green and yellow (£4,000 to £5,000). *Entries for next sale close 1 April.*

For further information on these and other British sales please contact 01-439 9060 for King Street or 01-581 7611 for South Kensington. South Kensington sales are open every Monday evening until 7 p.m. for viewing and free verbal valuations.

CHRISTIE'S
A WEEK IN VIEW

صلى الله عليه وسلم

How to avoid getting stuck in the wrong career.

You start at a disadvantage.

Aged 21, or younger, you are expected to pick a career that will shape the rest of your life.

How unreasonable.

After all, would you marry a girl you'd never met? Or buy a house you'd never seen?

It's just as foolish to plunge into a career you know nothing about.

There's not much point in discovering, halfway up the ladder in, say, banking, that you'd rather be making documentary films.

Or serving abroad with the Foreign Office.

Ten years hence, you'll probably have a mortgage and a young family.

It will be, in the words of the song, much too late for goodbye.

First, find out what you're good at.

Ideally, you wouldn't specialise straightaway.

You'd spend your first few years exploring different jobs.

Finding out what excites and what bores you. What you're good at and what you should definitely avoid. (As Somerset Maugham said, only the mediocre are always at their best.)

Above all, you'd discover what you most enjoy doing. Then you'd stick at it.

Unfortunately, with three million out of work, nobody can afford to flit from job to job.

Yet there is no single career that can give you the variety of work experience you need.

Or is there?

We'll coax your talents out of hiding.

As well as soldiering, an Army Officer can find himself tackling unusual jobs.

Making documentary films. Serving with the Foreign Office. Training to be an astronaut. Practising law. Writing books and magazine articles. Leading an Himalayan expedition. Solving land disputes. Teaching degree courses. Conserving wildlife in the Antarctic. Acting as equerries to the Royal Family. Organising disaster relief. Devising computer programs. Building bridges and airfields. Underwater archaeological exploration.

The list could go on to fill the rest of this page.

Think about it. What other career could allow you to develop in so many different directions?

Broadening the mind.

Our work takes us all over the world. Places like Berlin and Hong Kong could be familiar territory.

You would live and work in them, not just visit as a tourist.

But don't expect life to be one long holiday.

You might well serve in Northern Ireland.

Or on the tense East/West German border.

We may send you to the snake-infested jungles of Belize. (You'll need a machete and your wits about you.)

Picture yourself trekking out of Kathmandu to pay pensions to retired Gurkha warriors.

Officers serving with the Gurkhas must speak Gurkhali. So we'd teach you.

We could also teach you Arabic, Chinese, German, Russian, Spanish and Swahili. (Not to mention quite a few computer languages.)

Room at the top.

Naturally, we hope most of the young men we train will make their long term careers with us.

But we've had our share of failures.

Several very promising officers have, for instance, gone on to become Prime Ministers.

(Six out of the nine post-war British Prime Ministers served as Army Officers.)

Others deserted us for big business.

(At the last count, the heads of 32 of the top 100 companies in the UK.)

All these renegades recognise the value of an Army training.

So if, after three, five or eight years, you leave us, you will have impeccable credentials.

And a very clear idea of how you want your career to develop.

An advertisement can only begin to touch on the huge variety of an Army Officer's work.

Someone who can tell you more is Major John Floyd.

Write to him at Empress State Building, Army Officer Entry, Department F15, Lillie Rd., London SW6 1TR.

He'll want to know your date of birth, where you are currently studying and the qualifications you have or expect.

In return he'll help you get details of the hundred and one careers that await you as an Army Officer.



Army Officer



SPECTRUM

The superpowers are meeting in Geneva today to discuss arms limitations. Nicholas Ashford and Mohsin Ali set the scene

After the shouting, the talking begins

An 'umbrella' approach to the talks puts both defensive and offensive weapons on the negotiating table. What are these weapons; and who are the men who will be bargaining with them?

Two years of angry shouting are over, and the United States and the Soviet Union are about to start talking to each other again on how to cut the size of their nuclear arsenals and reduce the risk of nuclear holocaust.

Today in Geneva their negotiators will sit down together at the start of what could be the most important round of nuclear arms talks since the first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima 40 years ago.

The highly technical talks will be protracted and could even drag into the 1990s. Given the chasm that separates the two sides and the hard-line positions adopted by Washington and Moscow, they may achieve little more than a slight deceleration of the arms race.

Certainly their overall objective, to rid the world of nuclear weapons, or as President Reagan put it "to put the nuclear genie back into the bottle", seems a mere pipedream at present.

The last set of nuclear arms talks broke up at the end of 1982 when the Soviet Union walked out of the Geneva negotiations on intermediate range nuclear force (INF) missiles in Europe. The reason for Moscow's angry gesture was the deployment of Nato's first Cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Britain, West Germany and Italy in response to the massive build-up of SS-20 missiles in Soviet Europe.

The Soviet Union has hoped that its massive propaganda effort against the Cruise and Pershing missiles would drive a wedge between the US and its European allies and prevent the weapons from being deployed.

Soon afterwards the Russians also brought the parallel talks on strategic weapons (known by the acronym Start) to a halt. Since then the arms build-up by both sides has proceeded at an unprecedented rate.

Two main factors have prompted the resumption of arms talks on the Soviet side: Moscow has become alarmed by the scale of President Reagan's arms build-up and the American technological potential for space weapons research. The president's decision to press ahead with his strategic defence research programme, popularly known as "Star Wars", was a key element in bringing the Soviet Union back to the negotiating table.

On the American side, the Reagan administration has come under mounting pressure from public opinion to slow the arms race. His decision early last year to pledge himself to negotiating arms reductions with Moscow (which helped neutralize the Democratic Par-

ty's advocacy of a "nuclear freeze" policy) contributed to his massive election victory.

The present talks involve a new approach to arms negotiations - a concept which President Reagan has dubbed an "umbrella" approach. Instead of holding separate talks about offensive and defensive weapons, the two sides will discuss both under one "umbrella" covering three categories, INF missiles; strategic weapons; space weapons.

For all practical purposes the INF and Start talks will begin where they ended in 1982, although in the INF talks the Soviet Union must face the fact that the deployment of the Cruise and Pershing missiles is now a reality.

Space weapons, on the other hand, are a new item on the agenda. The Russians first publicly showed their anxieties about Reagan's Star Wars plans when they proposed talks about space weapons last summer. These talks never got under way because conditions laid down by Moscow were unacceptable to the Americans.

Space weapons are likely to prove the most difficult of the three rounds of talks and will prompt intensive propaganda campaigns by both sides.

Indeed, the propaganda war has already started. The Americans claim that Moscow has been secretly carrying out its own research into space weapons. President Reagan is determined to carry on his research programme no matter what agreements emerge in Geneva.

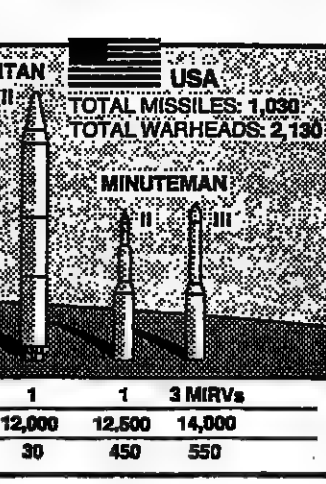
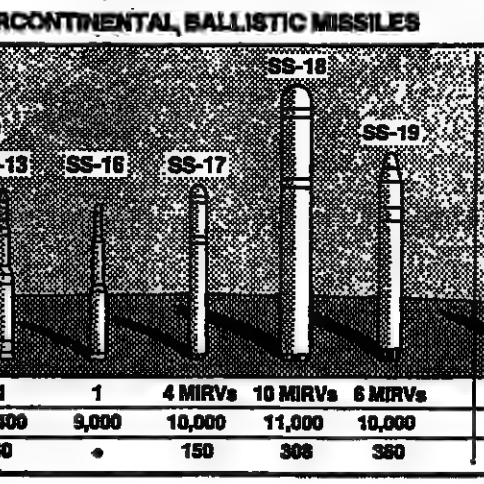
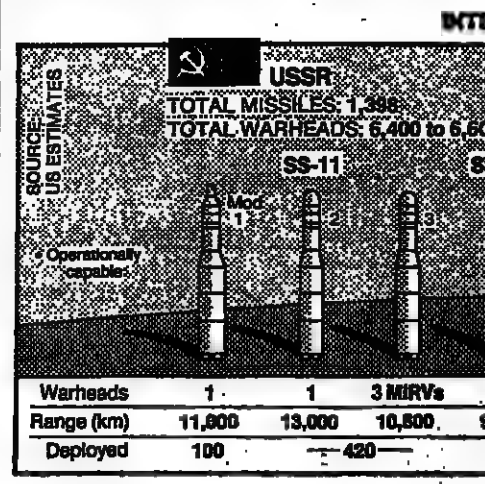
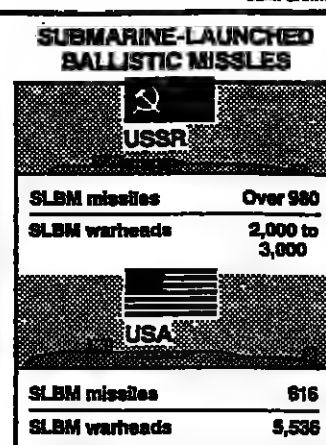
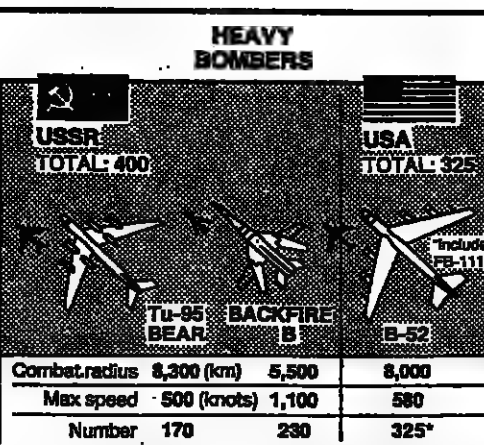
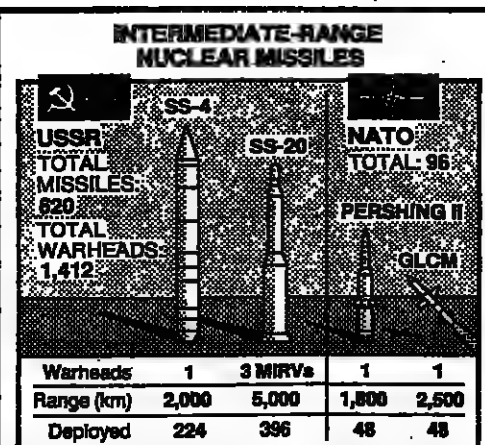
The Russians have accused the Americans of wanting to "militarize space" and have warned that progress in the INF and Start talks will be conditional on the Americans making concessions on space weapons.

The main target of these propaganda tirades is European public opinion, which the Russians again want to stir against the Americans, as they did before the deployment of the Cruise and Pershing missiles.

The Europeans are worried about Star Wars. They fear it could destabilize the present deterrence policy based on mutual assured destruction (MAD) which, however dangerous in concept, has so far proved effective in preventing war.

They are also concerned that it could eventually lead to a "decoupling" of Europe from the US's defensive shield.

Leon Carrington, Nato's Secretary-General, has implored East and West to give up their propaganda "megaphone diplomacy". At Geneva, the two superpowers have the chance at least to end the dialogue of the deaf.



TOUGH TALKERS

VIKTOR KARPOV, aged 56, is head of the Soviet delegation and of the team dealing with strategic weapons. He took part in both Salt One and Salt Two, and was chief negotiator at Salt Two from 1978. He headed the Soviet delegation at the succeeding talks on strategic arms reduction (Start) in Geneva 1982-3. In the Soviet Embassy in Washington in the 1960s, he is a veteran negotiator with a grasp of detail and is occasionally flamboyant. Married with one daughter.

YULI KIVITSINSKY, aged 48, is a career diplomat like Karpov. He served in both East and West Germany and took part in the Vienna MBFR negotiations. Kivitsinsky headed the Soviet delegation at intermediate range talks (INF) in Geneva 1981-3 and discussed the informal compromise known as the "walk in the woods" formula with Paul Nitze but vetoed in Moscow. He will deal with space rather than Euro-missiles at new Geneva talks. Married, two children.

ALEKSEI OBUKHOV, aged 47, is deputy head of the American section, Soviet foreign ministry. He will handle intermediate range missiles in the new talks. He served briefly in Thailand after joining the diplomatic service in 1965. A high flyer, he took part in Salt One and Salt Two and was Karpov's deputy at Start talks. Married with two children.

PAUL NITZE will act as special adviser to President Reagan during the Geneva arms negotiations. Aged 78, he has had more direct experience of negotiating with the Russians than any other American. Indeed, he has been at it almost continuously for over 40 years. He was a member of the US team that negotiated the Salt One treaty and headed the American side at the intermediate-range nuclear (INF) missile talks which the Russians torpedoed at the end of 1982. A firm believer in building up American military strength, he was a bitter opponent of the Salt Two treaty because he felt Moscow got more out of it than the US. A politician of the old school, his easy going manner and quiet charm belie a sharp mind, a computer-like ability to absorb the technical intricacies of nuclear and space

JOHN TOWER, aged 59, will head the US team at the talks on strategic weapons. A Republican senator for Texas for 24 years until the end of last year, Tower's legislative career has been spent striking political deals in Washington rather than with Moscow. However as chairman of the senate armed services committee he became one of the foremost experts on defence in the Congress. A hard-liner on East-West issues, he was sharply critical of the Salt Two agreement, which the Senate refused to ratify, and has been a staunch supporter of President Reagan's rearmament programme. His reputation as a "hawk" will encourage Congressional approval of any agreement he brings about.

MAYNARD GILTMAN aged 51, will head the US team at the talks on INF weapons. Known as "Mike" to his friends, Giltman is the only professional diplomat among the troika of negotiators. He was nominated by Nitze, whose deputy he was during the INF talks in Geneva, and is considered a stand-in for his former chief. He has spent much of his professional career dealing with East-West issues. A former member of the National Security Council under President Johnson, he was seconded to the Pentagon for a while to deal with Nato affairs. His most recent post has been as head of the US delegation to the East-West talks in Vienna on reducing conventional forces.

KAMPELMAN, aged 64, will be overall head of the US delegation and will also lead the American team in the space weapons negotiations. A "neoconservative" Democrat of the Jeanne Kirkpatrick mould, he has had no experience of arms control negotiations. Son of a Jewish hat salesman in the Bronx, he was a conscientious objector during World War Two and in his youth worked as a trade union organizer. A lawyer by training, his only previous experience of dealing with the Russians was as leader of the US team at the 35-state European security conference in Madrid between 1980 and 1983. He earned high marks for his performance during more than 400 hours of finding a compromise on human rights issues acceptable to Communist and non-Communist participants. He has expressed scepticism about the chances of success in Geneva, but he says: "We share this planet so we must talk to each other."

At present there are three separate sets of multi-lateral non-nuclear negotiations in progress in Vienna, Stockholm and Geneva.

In Vienna there are East-West negotiations on troop reductions in Central Europe. These talks between Nato and Warsaw Pact countries began in 1973 and have made virtually no progress.

In Stockholm there is a 35-state European disarmament conference on confidence-building measures. This began in January 1984 and is aimed at reducing the risk of intimidation, surprise attack, or miscalculation in Europe.

The US and its Nato allies have proposed confidence-building measures. These call for information exchange on ground and air forces in Europe, forecasts and notifications of, and mandatory observer invitations to, various military activities, on-site inspection of these activities and improvement of "hot line" communication links among participants.

In contrast, the Warsaw Pact has proposed measures that are broad declarations of intent and unverifiable. They have called for a treaty on the non-use of force, an agreement on non-first-use of nuclear weapons, establishment of nuclear weapons-free zones, reductions of military budgets and a ban on chemical weapons in Europe.

The Geneva East-West disarmament conference, in one form or another, has been going on for more than 30 years. Last April Vice-President George Bush put a draft convention to ban and eliminate all types of chemical weapons under strict international supervision. The Soviet Union has strongly criticized several aspects of the draft.

Basically the Soviet Union did not change its position in two years of negotiations. Moscow insisted that it would retain a substantial SS-20 force in Europe, with no deployments on the US side.

Britain and France meanwhile maintain that their missiles are strategic and not INF weapons.

The original US Start proposal called for:

● Reductions in deployed ballistic missiles warheads by one-third to 5,000 for each side, of which no more than 2,500 would be on intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs).

● A limit of 850 deployed ballistic missiles (roughly one-third the current US inventory), of which no more than 110 would be heavy missiles.

● Equal levels of heavy bombers, including the Soviet "backfire" bomber.

Later, in response to the Soviet criticism, President Reagan proposed a draft treaty that included equal limits on heavy bombers and restricted the number of air-launched cruise missiles.

In 1983 the US put forward its "build-down initiative". More than one existing ballistic missile warhead would be removed for each new one deployed until the level of 5,000 warheads for each side was reached. The US also proposed a concurrent build-down of heavy bombers.

Soviet Start proposals provide for:

● Modest reductions for the Salt Two levels, from 2,250 to 1,800 strategic nuclear launchers on each side.

● Unspecified limits on the total number of nuclear weapons, including ballistic missile warheads, cruise missiles, and other bomber armaments.

● Modest reductions in the Salt 2 sub-limits on multiple independent re-entry ballistic missiles (MIRVs).

The night she was killed, Hutchinson saw her accompanied by a man to the place where she lived. The description resembles Cream's: a moustache turned up at the ends and dark complexion; 34 or 35-years-old; about 5ft 6in tall. The man's black tie had a horse-shoe tie pin. Cream also wore one (see picture).

Mr Bell meets head on two of the main objections to Dr Cream being the Ripper. The first is that Cream was a poisoner. He was hanged for it. But eyewitnesses said that on the gallows Cream's final words were cut short: "I am Jack..."

The second objection is that Cream was supposed to have been serving life imprisonment in Joliet (Illinois) in 1888 when the Ripper was killing and mutilating his victims. But prisoners sometimes paid to have substitutes in jail, Mr Bell says.

Peter Evans

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Peter Evans

Who was Jack the Ripper? A handwriting expert thinks he was...

Doctor Ripper

Britain's most intriguing murder mystery, the identity of Jack the Ripper, has had as many suspects and red herrings as any Agatha Christie story. But one of Britain's leading forensic handwriting experts, Derek Davis, is prepared to stake his reputation that the Ripper was, in fact, a Scottish-born Doctor, Thomas Neill Cream.

Independent evidence comes from a Canadian author and journalist, Donald Bell, who is planning a book, *Dr Ripper and Mr Cream*, for 1988, the centenary of London's East End terror.

Mr Davis has impeccable credentials for the task of unmasking the Ripper's disguised handwriting. He has acted on behalf of all the joint stock banks in England, the Office Solicitors, Lloyds, and professional bodies like the Law Society and General Medical Council. Now he has re-examined for

Clues pointing to Cream. First: the distinctive tie-pin. Second: disguised writing in A and B compared with Cream's normal writing in C. In A, the "Mr" and "KT" indicate a natural slant while "old boss" in B shows a 45° right slope which cannot be maintained. But Cream cannot disguise the upward stroke beginning each word nor his natural "r".

The Times evidence from letters which appeared in *The Criminologist*, a forensic journal, 10 years ago. They convince Mr Davis that Cream was the Ripper.

One, to Mr George Lusk, chairman of the Whitechapel Vigilance Committee, was assumed to have been sent by the Ripper. Another was thought to be a hoax, though signed "Jack the Ripper". The others were known to be by Cream.

Mr Davis first shows that the letter to Mr Lusk and the one signed "Jack the Ripper" were, although heavily disguised, written by the same person.

The letter to Mr Lusk showed evidence of a natural slant to the left. The one signed "Jack the Ripper" and presumably written in a style to confuse, has a slant to the right, but the writer could not be consistent. More evidence of deliberate disguise comes from the spelling of "kidney" is correct once yet wrong twice. "Kidney" and "kidne", while more difficult words like "half" and "guess" are correct.

The word "and" is a giveaway. It is out of pattern with the rest of the Ripper's handwriting and more in pattern with that of Cream's. The disguise has slipped. Similarly, Cream's final stroke in characters like "m", "n" and "d" curl upwards.

The upward stroke beginning the first letter of a word is another tell-tale sign. Cream tries to remember to omit the initial movement - natural to him - in the letters to Mr Lusk and from "Jack the Ripper", but fails. His disguise of his natural "r" cannot be kept up either.

Mr Bell backs up the evidence from a different angle. In an interview he says George Hutchinson, a labourer, followed the Ripper's last victim

the night she was killed. Hutchinson saw her accompanied by a man to the place where she lived. The description resembles Cream's: a moustache turned up at the ends and dark complexion; 34 or 35-years-old; about 5ft 6in tall. The man's black tie had a horse-shoe tie pin. Cream also wore one (see picture).

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ACROSS

- 1 Old Test statesman
- 2 Prophet
- 3 Mummy (4)
- 4 Frenzy

FASHION by Suzy Menkes

Taking a shine to suits



The shiny suit was once the mark of the wide boy. Now electric colours, iridescent finishes and shimmering surfaces are high fashion for a generation that has switched on to suits.

At last week's menswear show at Browns, the international names were outshone by British designers with their crazy inventiveness and sharp tailoring. Jasper Conran's peacock plumage - bright silk and wool jackets and flowered chiffon shirts - competed with Culture Shock's marbled weaves in jewel colours from jade to amethyst and John Galiano's heroic brocades.

The success of the English Menswear Designer Collections in Paris and London has confirmed this new generation tailoring. Leaders of the sharp suit parade are Stephen King, with suits that gleam and shine and shirts to match, and Arkitekt, whose iridescent fabrics pick up the spiv style by the collar and cuffs and turn them into high fashion. Both these designers open their own London shops this month.

Charlie Allen pioneers the new suit line - wide trousers with turn-ups and generous jacket cut to shadow the body rather than shape it. His fabrics are subtly textured slub weaves shot with colour to catch the light as it moves.

The long jacket is the key to the new suit - either a low double breast with two buttons, show three, or increasingly a single breast buttoned very high or very low.

Revers are cut according to the jacket shape, with very wide collars and lapels or very narrow drapes equally popular. Even ties fit these extremes: wide ties with big knots to complement cutaway collars or slim Jim ties of 1950s style.

Shirts are having their biggest flowering since the wild end of the 1960s, and there is a feeling of the hippies in the colourful prints. The patterned shirt, like the suit, has a new dimension of texture, so that discreet checks or neat paisley motifs are embossed with silken glitter. And after a year of hanging tails, the shirt is now going back inside the suit.



Return of the sensuous woman

March 11

In Italy, the body will out. Just one year after designers smashed the *bella figura* image of Italian fashion, the sensuous woman is back.

David Bailey, over from England to photograph the new Versace collection, summed up the mood. "It's easy for me to photograph because the clothes are so strong and sexy", he said.

Gianni Versace is the master of sensuous shaping and of clinging cut. Velvet, his favourite fabric, quilted in ink blue, patterned with green circles, draped as a bath-towel skirt, pleated and side-slit and sometimes all of that at once.

Versace has discovered a new erogenous zone - the nape of the neck. He plays with the collar, pleating it across the shoulders into a flat bow at the nape, or he makes his collar trace the body line, dropping lapels to the navel, or cropping revers at the point of the bust.

Dolce & Gabbana dresses in black crepe bisected with black lace left one bosom on view. More truly sensuous was Versace's metal mesh - his personal creation - moulded into slender columns or his black cashmere polo sweaters, with glitter buttons, worn with black velvet skirts and under black shearing coats laquered with a brilliant shine.

Gianfranco Ferré treats clothes like sculptures and his mould is the female figure. Jackets curl round the collarless neck, lap the rounded shoulders and curve into the waist. His trousers and there are many more of them than skirts - rise to a high and shapely waist line.

The Ferré line for winter is a big coat rounded into gathers at the back, worn over a swingy tunic and a slim skirt. There are sensuous combinations of texture: plush velvet with his favourite grey flannel, matt jersey with black velvet or shiny vinyl.

Miracles of cutting make a purple crepe dress that unfolds into a cape back or a black jacket with one lapel growing from the bust. Jackets cut with a rising curve at the back look complicated and the overall palette of purple and black was slightly sombre. But square blocks of primary colour on well-contoured knits was in fashion's master class.

Krizia also showed clothes on the curve. Designer Mariuccia Mandelli took the body as the starting point and twirled her compass round it.

Krizia is also getting ritzier - with fur and velvet, satin and fluffy mohair, all spelling out glamour.

The fur was mostly fox, dyed alarming colours and used, as a complete animal skin, for the ultimate shoulderbag. The fox looked more appealing as a predatory picture on the front of Krizia's famous knitted sweaters.

THE INTERNATIONAL COLLECTION

MILAN



Top: Versace's sensuous velvet. Above: Ferré's collarless coat. Photographs by HARRY KERR



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Top left: Shiny steel and silver grey woven check suit by Stephen King in linen and poly cotton, £220 from Way In, Harrods, Knightsbridge SW1 (and mail order); Stephen King, 315 King's Road SW3. Silver embossed shirt, £70.50 from Way In at Harrods.

Top right: Jade green marble weave jacket, £295, rose pink and jade trousers, £115. Watercoloured lilac cotton shirt, £90. All by Culture Shock from Brown's 23-27 South Molton Street W1. Circle patterned tie, £3.99, by Smith Brothers from Chelsea Man and Top Man shops. Chiffon scarf in pocket from Liberty. Black patent slippers, £29.99, by XX from Melandri, Carnaby Street W1. Leather belt by Osprey Company.

Above left: Sapphire blue dupion silk single-breasted jacket, £170; trousers, £105; 10 colourways. Floral print silk shirt, £74. By Arkitekt from Acrobat, 31 King's Road SW3; Cruise, Edinburgh; Elias Tom, Dublin; Arkitekt shop at 1 Langley Court, WC2 in two weeks' time. Leather belt, £8, by Osprey Company from Image, Bath.

Above centre: Teal blue suit with surface shimmer. Double-breasted jacket, £220; wide trousers, £75. Iridescent rib neck top, £48. All by Charlie Allen from Woodhouse, Oxford Street W1; Sloane Street SW1; King's Road SW3; Zaggar, Chelmsford; Cream, Manchester; Buc, Twickenham; Warehouse,

Glasgow. Blue suede shoes, £19.99, from Shelly's Shoes, 159 Oxford Street W1.

Above right: Slate grey slub poly cotton jacket with winduppers check, £49.99. Grey trousers, £26.99. Both from Next for Men. Gilded skyscrapers embroidered on purple cotton shirt by Elaine Chelloner, £75.95, from Way In at Harrods, Knightsbridge SW1. Belt by Osprey Company. Bow-tie by Smith Brothers, £2.99, from Chelsea Man.

Hair by Graham Hamps at Leonard, 6 Upper Grosvenor Street W1.

Fashion assistant: Christine Paineil

Photographs by RICHARD IMRIE

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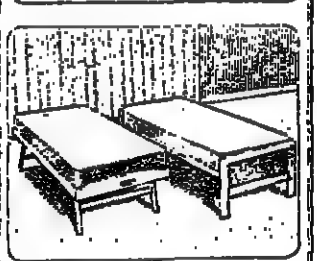
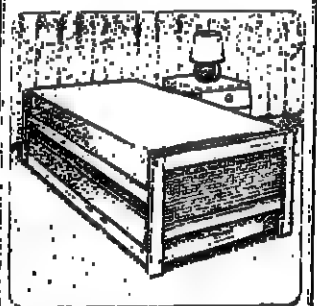
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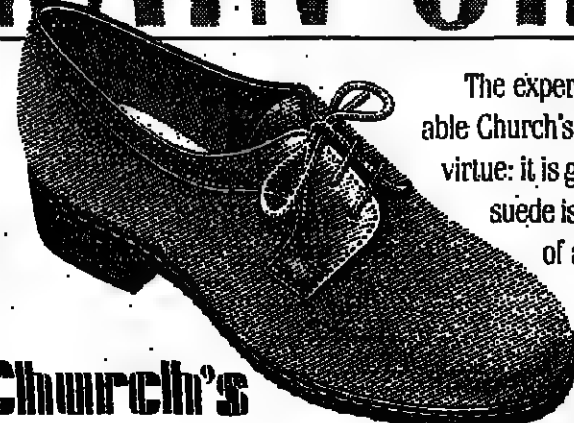
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THE TIMES DIARY

Mischievous Mikhail

Although Mikhail Gorbachev, the new Russian leader, has never been invited to Number Ten, he does have a direct knowledge of it. A hitherto suppressed report - confirmed by Downing Street yesterday - reveals a prank Gorbachev played on Number Ten during his visit here last Christmas when Mrs T was safely tucked away in Peking. It happened when he was travelling to the Russian embassy in Kensington Palace Gardens after lengthy meetings with Kinnoch, Steel and Owen in the Commons. Driving past Whitehall, Gorbachev mischievously ordered the motorcade to a halt at the foot of Downing Street, got out, and cheekily walked straight past security. "He just knocked on the front door," said a Downing Street spokesman yesterday. "He popped in, had a look at the Christmas tree, and shook hands with the staff." Asked how he breached security for an impromptu visit, the spokesman said: "He was with Captain Shaw, that would have been all squared." This was news to Captain Shaw, Secretary of the Inter-Parliamentary Union which was organizing Gorbachev's visit. Shaw was in the last car in the motorcade, and was horrified when they suddenly stopped. "I thought there had been an assassination attempt," he told me.

Private eye

Now viewers have finally seen the banned 20/20 television programme alleging that M15 bugs and breaks into private homes, by way of balance they should also know that the programme's researcher, Gerry Gable, editor of the anti-fascist magazine Searchlight, is not unacquainted with intrusive activities himself. In today's Commons debate on phone-tapping, Tory MP Michael Forsyth intends to raise a court case in 1964 in which Gable was fined £34 by Highbury magistrates for tricking his way into the home of right-wing historian David Irving, disguised as a GPO engineer, to acquire certain documents. What he would have done with them he is not letting on.

Sweeping

The National Council for Civil Liberties is taking no chances following revelations that M15 regarded it as a subversive organisation. It is about to pay around £230 to have its London Bridge offices "swept" for bugging devices and, says chairman Bill Birles, anything found will be displayed at a press conference. Birles, husband of Neil Kinnoch's press secretary Patricia Hewitt, may have his Kenish Town home checked at the same time. "M15's definition of what is contrary to the interests of the state probably extends to the leader of the Opposition," he says. "We know that a lot of phones were tapped during the miners' strike and I'd be surprised if they didn't want to know what Kinnoch was doing."



Barry Fantoni
"With the miners back, someone was probably looking for a place to put their coal"

Dethroned

Some get thrown off buses; others, like Lord King, get thrown off aeroplanes. Only Lord King is head of BA, and he was on one of his own planes. It happened on the Dubai to London flight on Sunday when Dubai's BA manager - acting on a directive made by Lord King in 1981 - downgraded him from first class to make way for a fare-paying passenger. King had to slum it in Club Class.

Leaky case

In the post-Ponting trial Commons debate the Defence Secretary, Michael Heseltine, sought to discredit Ponting by quoting documents purporting to show that he had changed the advice he gave to ministers on the Belgian sinking from non-disclosure to full disclosure. The Labour MP George Foulkes subsequently asked Heseltine in a written question why he had quoted only selected documents, pointing out that the reason Ponting had changed his advice was that the naval authorities authorized the disclosure of certain documents that Ponting had previously thought classified. Heseltine has just replied to Foulkes. He was not aware, he said, of this correspondence between Ponting and the naval authorities (even though it was referred to in open court). This totally undermines Heseltine's case against Ponting, says Foulkes. It is also "quite inexcusable" that Heseltine should have so slight a grip on what is going on in his department.

PHS

Richard Owen on the hopes raised by Gorbachev's instant accession

Will he make Russia move?

Moscow
There is a danger that the election of Mikhail Gorbachev as the new general secretary will raise expectations unrealistically, one Moscow intellectual said thoughtfully yesterday. "But the Central Committee has finally given us an imaginative and vigorous leader," he smiled, unable to restrain his hopes for Russia under Mikhail Gorbachev, a man who is still only 54, is the youngest and best-educated man in the Politburo and has reformist ideas which may be put into practice at last - provided he can overcome the reservations of the hidebound apparatus.

"The first thing he will do is try to get rid of some of the old-style bureaucrats and apparatchiks who elected him," said one observer of Kremlin politics. "The coming party congress will see some fireworks, and there will be a lot of behind-the-scenes changes before then."

The death of Konstantin Chernenko marks the end of what was really a footnote in history. He was a dyed-in-the-wool party apparatchik of Siberian origin, who embodied caution, rather than change. He was the oldest man to reach the top in Soviet Russia, and stayed there for the shortest time.

Although his predecessor Yuri Andropov was in power for only 15 months, he laid the foundations for the kind of economic and administrative reforms that Russia has needed for years. Chernenko held

power for just over a year without making anything like the same impact. When his death was announced an observer of Kremlin politics said: "The real transition starts now." The question is whether the Central Committee will have the courage to appoint somebody willing to pick up where Andropov left off, or whether it will fudge the issue again and go for another member of the old guard.

The answer came with astonishing speed when the Central Committee, which had passed over Mikhail Gorbachev after the deaths of Brezhnev and Andropov, elected him general secretary at the age of 54. The news was a revelation to the days when Soviet leaders were young, energetic and in their fifties. It electrified many Russians, especially those under 40 and hopeful of change. "Now we'll see Russia move," said one young Russian exultantly. "What a difference from Chernenko!"

As the Soviet Union prepares to celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany, an event which is being turned by the Kremlin into a mixture of patriotism and a vindication of the Soviet system, the self-congratulatory propaganda cannot mask the fact that the Russia that Chernenko has left behind has not advanced markedly since he took power, and in many ways the Kremlin has dodged key questions about policy.

Russia has been in danger of being left further and further behind the rest of the world. Even in ideology and the arts, Chernenko's specialty, Russia reverted to the backward-looking doctrine of Socialist Realism. Chernenko himself was not a bloodthirsty man, nor a dictator, he was if anything a rather kindly, life-long bureaucrat with a bumbling style who had spent his entire career in administration, most of it as personal assistant to a man who ruled Russia for nearly two decades.

"Many of us could hardly believe Chernenko would actually become leader," one Russian intellectual observed. "He was not the man for the times. We need someone dynamic and technology-minded who is willing to take risks rather than make safe choices."

In some respects history may be slightly kinder to Chernenko than these harsh judgments would suggest. It is to his credit that he presided over Russia at a crucial period in East-West relations, when Moscow swallowed its pride over the abandoned Geneva arms talks and agreed to hold new discussions on space weapons and nuclear missiles. In these the Soviet position is likely to remain unchanged, since stopping President Reagan's "Star Wars" project for a space-based anti-missile system remains the top Soviet priority. Some of Chernenko's domestic measures are also

likely to remain in force, including his school reform and his attempt (albeit belated) to introduce computer technology into education and ultimately into industry and administration.

During the Chernenko period Gorbachev and other men of the postwar technocratic generation have quietly moved into top positions.

The Andropov drive against corruption in high places did continue under Chernenko. General Nikolai Sholokhov, a close Brezhnev associate before he was sacked as interior minister by Andropov, was stripped of his rank under Chernenko and took his own life. Brezhnev's son-in-law Yuri Churbinov, Sholokhov's deputy, was also demoted for corrupt practices, and there were other demotions and executions. But the fact that these men were also close to Chernenko suggests that the anti-corruption drive was continued in spite of the president rather than because of him. Like Andropov's economic experiments, anti-corruption was pursued by those loyal to the Andropov vision, who also ensured that Andropov's name and policies were loudly praised at intervals in the Soviet media.

It is on the domestic front that change will be felt most keenly and most immediately. That at least is what most Russians hope and expect, or in some cases fear.

David Nicholson-Lord on a hidden threat to regeneration in the inner cities

Fresh shoots that may die with the bill

A conspiracy of silence surrounds one of the key provisions of the bill to abolish the GLC and the metropolitan councils. What is at stake, strangely, is an established government policy which has of late shown definite signs of success.

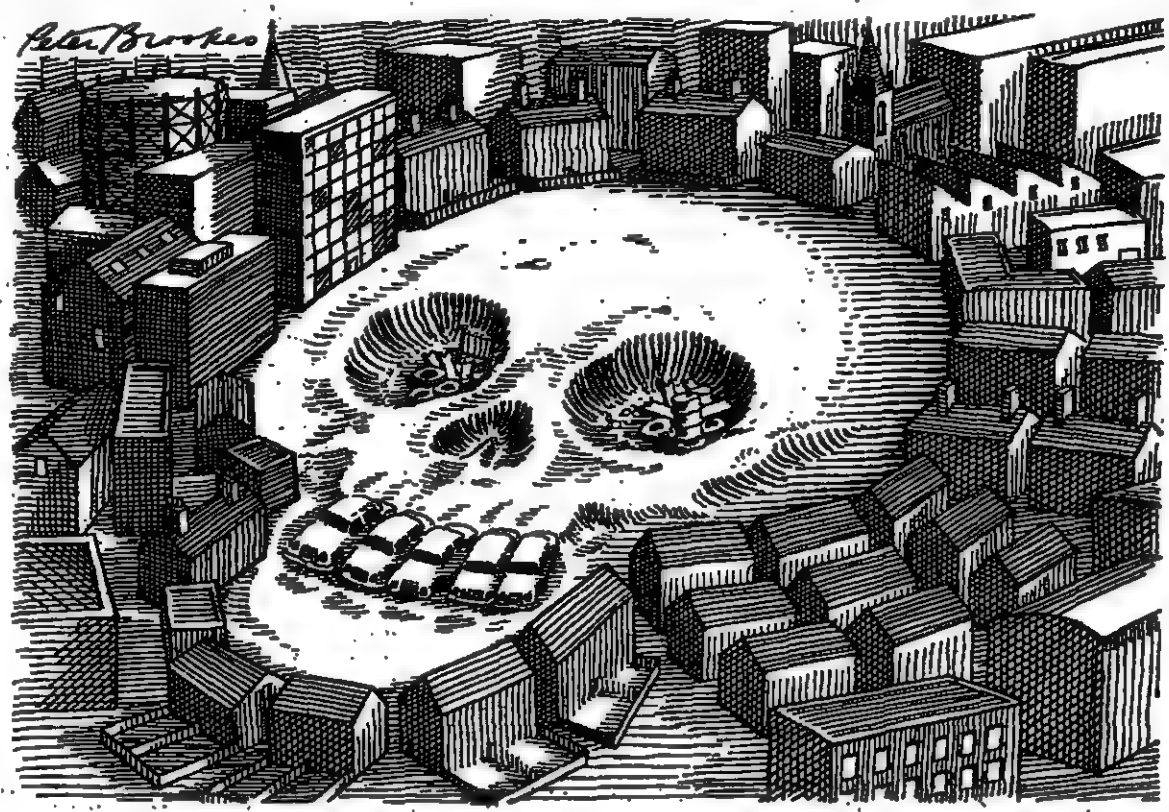
The symbol of the festival, that ambitious and ultimately triumphant effort to transform 250 acres of poisoned earth and industrial debris into smiling parkland. More garden festivals are promised - Stoke next year, Glasgow and Gateshead in 1988 and 1990, Swansea thereafter - and local authorities have been keen to stake their claims.

Similar interest has been shown in the Groundwork scheme, now being tried out in the black belts left by the Industrial Revolution around Manchester and Liverpool, in which public, private and voluntary bodies join forces to clean up decay. The scheme goes national next month and up to 20 councils have put in bids to take part.

Since 1981, when Michael Heseltine clutched at the idea of garden festivals after the Toxteth riots, greener cities have figured prominently in official thinking on urban regeneration. In the process, what might once have been regarded as frivolous prettification has been increasingly seen as a vital ingredient in luring back jobs, not least in tourism, to the cities.

Superficially it is an argument about image: at a deeper level it concerns the relationship between derelict landscapes and derelict people. But the fact remains that hard-headed businessmen - now coming among the keenest proponents of comprehensive urban redevelopment.

All of which lands Patrick Jenkin, Kenneth Baker and their colleagues at the Department of the Environment with a problem. For the truth is that the metropolitan counties have been the most successful of elected bodies at reclaiming derelict land and buildings and fashioning new and imaginative cityscapes. This was the thrust of a recent report from the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors, which concluded that the metropolitan counties had found an assured strategic role in reclamation and environmental renewal. It is echoed by a range of non-partisan bodies, from the National Farmers' Union



to the Confederation of British Industry.

In Greater Manchester, for example, grossly polluted river valleys are being restored to provide a framework of sinuous green spaces radiating from the city centre to the surrounding countryside. The West Midlands, which recently adopted a nature conservation strategy, operates Greenline and Green-up projects to renovate rail and road corridors.

Paradoxically such renewal is not a specific metropolitan county function and hence does not even merit its own clause in the Local Government Bill. Yet along with waste disposal and minerals control, which it is closely linked, it is currently arousing the most serious, albeit privately expressed, concern among those trying to make out the shape of things to come after abolition next year.

Curiously for a government still avowedly concerned with inner-city regeneration, Whitehall persists in its Micawberesque conviction that these will sort themselves out. The position, in other words, remains that outlined in the 1983 White Paper: that the lower tier of districts and boroughs will cooperate harmoniously to take over where the metropolitan counties left off.

Most experts believe this simply will not happen. One reason is that many districts - 80 per cent, according to one informal sounding - are not interested in joint working. Another is the inherent implausibility, and inefficiency, of up to 10 districts cooperating on long-term projects which may involve one council spending money to confer short-term benefits on another.

before taking him away. He found his father later, he says, feet and hands tied together and his head blown to pieces. We ask justice for those who died, Marquez said. Justice - nothing more.

The Las Hojas massacre is one of the best-documented instances of army involvement in human-rights violations here. The main points in Esquino's account have been supported by investigators from the US Embassy and the Salvadoran human rights commission. President José Napoleón Duarte has made the massacre one of six human-rights cases to be investigated by a special commission he set up six months ago to show that such indiscriminate killings would no longer be tolerated in El Salvador. But the commission has been obstructed at almost every turn by the conservative-dominated legislative assembly and by the conservative-controlled attorney-general's office. A senior Salvadoran official said that the commission has served a symbolic purpose, but that he doubted it would ever be able to bring about the conviction of the guilty.

The lack of legal progress is an indication of defects in the Salvadoran judicial system that appear to outweigh Duarte's good intentions, as does the continuing refusal of the

Even if individual districts are prepared to shoulder an extra reclamation burden - a big "if" - given existing commitments and spending cuts - they will almost certainly be unable to afford the expertise necessary for the large, complex schemes that have become the metropolitan counties' hallmark.

Greater Manchester's land reclamation team, for instance, employs ecologists who have developed techniques for growing grass and trees on raw, highly acidic colliery waste. Tyne and Wear's team has accumulated highly specialized skills in reclaiming such cocktails of toxicity as tar, gas and coke works, in which blue asbestos and cyanides combine with phenols, toluene, naphthalene and carbolic acid. Such interdisciplinary teams, with skills ranging from landscape architects to soil scientists, arboriculturists and toxicologists, are viable only if they service a large, long-term reclamation programme.

There is also what might be called the Pelaw Quarry factor. Tyne and Wear was faced with a series of environmental problems ranging from an ugly and uneconomic clay quarry at Pelaw in Gateshead to an over-used and unpopular NCB coke-stocking site and a general shortage throughout Newcastle of landfill areas for waste disposal. By an astute juggling of planning permissions and disposal arrangements, the quarry operator and the coal board will have new sites further removed from the public eye; and Gateshead, by the 1990s, will boast a new country park when the gaping holes of Pelaw quarry are neatly filled in with the conurbation's rubbish. A single district could have accomplished this only by surren-

human pact, patience and political skill.

Organizational, if not democratic, logic thus points to a joint board or agency of the type proposed for fire, police and transport. Yet where there should now be wide-ranging discussion of this and other options, there is instead the enveloping silence of closed minds and ritual gestures. Under various policy injunctions - from Labour's national executive committee, town hall unions and the Association of Metropolitan Authorities - elected members, their officers and their national representatives are supposedly barred from contemplating what will happen after abolition. The Government's bland optimism thus goes virtually unchallenged.

The danger is, that by the time co-operation is seen to work, the specialist teams will have dispersed and environmental renewal in the cities will have been dealt a blow from which it will take many years to recover. The increase in derelict land reveals how vulnerable such renewal is. So fast is the industrial rustbelt expanding that even though 39 per cent of the 1974 total of officially registered derelict land in England had been reclaimed by 1982, the overall total had still grown by 6 per cent.

If the achievements of the last decade are allowed to lapse, the result will be at best a slowing of creeping in the big cities, at worst a renewed blight sapping hopes of regeneration. The Government's supporters in the shires might think this does not concern them, but they are wrong. For if fresh land for jobs and housing is not produced in the cities, renewed pressures on the Green belt will not be far behind.

The maximum penalty paid by most army officers has been a diplomatic posting abroad and in one instance a lieutenant was forced to resign. Senior army officers have said that the only reason these limited actions were taken was because of pressure from the American embassy. Such problems have not kept Esquino from repeatedly seeking legal redress. He has met with two Salvadoran presidents, the American ambassador, the army chief of staff and the attorney-general. They all promised justice, he said.

The minister of defence at the time of the killings, General José Guillermo García, publicly vowed that the guilty would be punished because in El Salvador "justice is always done".

The people of Las Hojas say they will continue to pursue their case in court, but life has not been easy for them. Recently the army forcibly recruited six teenagers from the cooperative whose fathers were among the massacre victims, according to Esquino. Mothers of the teenagers said their chief concern now was to persuade the army to return their sons.

James Lemoyne

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Digby Anderson

Experts that are hard to stomach

Two prominent supermarket chains have, without any state compulsion, begun to display comprehensive details of the ingredients in their foods on the labels. The recent exhibition showed the increased emphasis that food-producers, again without governmental compulsion but presumably in response to demand, are putting on "healthy" foods. Last year saw booming sales for books on diets and "healthy" eating, books provided spontaneously by the market.

These developments are galling for one group of people, the Food-Leninists. Let me introduce you. You'd rather not meet them? They do not sound very pleasant. Indeed they are not but you should know what they plan to do to your food before it's too late - while there's still cracking on your part.

For nearly two years, since the leaking of the National Advisory Committee on Nutrition Education (NACNE) report, *Proposals for Nutritional Guidelines for Health Education*, a growing attempt has been made to have accepted as fact that the average British diet is suicidal and worse now than ever before. Proposed remedies include a 15-year state plan which will alter public attitudes, agricultural practices, food manufacturing and processing techniques, food prices, packaging and advertising. No, it is not a misprint; a 15-year state plan.

The action demanded by the Food-Leninists is not health education. That might be sensible. Nor are they simply asking the Government to stop current interventions which distort food market prices and encourage unhealthy eating. That would indeed be sensible. No, the Leninists want more government intervention to tax food products which they themselves, decree to be unhealthy, government prescription of what is to be displayed on food labels, a ban on the advertising of foods which the state decides are not good for its citizens, government subsidies and directions to farmers to breed and rear livestock selectively with a view to producing the "right" sort of meat, and lots of state propaganda on "healthy" eating. Leninism.

Your guess is as good as mine as to whether the Government will listen to these people who would have thought an administration which talks so much freedom rhetoric would be so wedded to compulsory fluoridisation? But that is not my reason for introducing you to the Leninists. I thought you might be interested in their trick. They did not invent it. It is an old trick well used by campaigners for more state intervention in social and health problems. But the Food-Leninists perform it rather neatly. It is called the competence trick.

Take a problem, in this case the British diet. Describe it in detail. Explain that the principal killer diseases of today are related to individual behaviour, usually called "lifestyle", and thus avoidable. Dwell, at length, on the horrible consequences of eating too much sugar or fat. Proclaim the links between diet and coronary heart disease, cancer of the large bowel, diabetes and strokes. Graphically illustrate the costs of these self-imposed sufferings to the National Health System and work lost in industry.

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I was listening to an announcer on Radio 3 the other day when it suddenly occurred to me that someone had once said there was such a thing as a BBC accent.

What a load of nonsense. There are dozens of BBC accents, or at least BBC voices. It's just that nobody has bothered to tabulate them all yet. Like a water meadow that supports countless different forms of life, BBC radio is a treasure-house of varied speaking patterns. Take the measured tread of my Radio 3 man...

"Glockesteiner was born in Hanover in 1836 and died in Berlin in 1877. Though little remembered today, he was famous in his time for his organ sonatas, chamber works and light operettas. Of these the most famous was *The Flights of the Vicar*, whose overture we hear now played by..."

The phrasing, the voice, the patient enunciation of a man who knows that nobody is listening to him, are all Radio 3. They could be on no other station. Even when cricket takes over, things go quite differently. We do not hear:

"Padmore was born in Barnsley in 1893 and died in Surrey in 1947. Though forgotten now, he was well-known in his day as Yorkshire opening bat, close fielder and occasional spin bowler. Perhaps his most famous innings..."

What we do hear is: "Freddie, do you remember Victor Padmore, or was he before your time? What a grand old character he was - my goodness, I remember him coming on in the fourth Test against Australia when all seemed lost and getting the two vital wickets of - or am I thinking of George Raft, the Notts left-hander?"

Radio 3 cricket is the home of soft regional accents, whereas football summaries are the home of hard regional accents, all Geordie, Glaswegian, Liverpool and cockney. Midweek football, that is Saturday football belongs to the hard-boiled, misplaced foreign correspondent, sounding as if he's reporting under fire from Beirut instead of White Hart Lane.

Do not publicize the fact that not all nutritionists agree about these matters or that they have been wrong in the past. Do not mention that dietary matters vary between individuals - one person can take much more cholesterol than any other. It is crucial not to say anything which might imply the solution is one for individuals and their doctors. Describe the problem so as to make a general, political solution the appropriate answer.

Now find a villain. The obvious candidate, the cream-bum-greasy individual, won't do, merely because he is an individual. Instead there is a ready-made cardboard character villain, one tested in many previous social-issue productions. It is the food industry, grasping for profits, which with the aid of the equally villainous advertising industry is deceiving the innocent man-in-the-bum-shoot into bad ways. Mark it freed from capitalism, would be a natural brain-hungry jogger.

In vain does one argue that if capitalists really are out for profits, they will seek it indiscriminately, as happy to make money out of brain-tracks, engineering, and labels which read like nutritional dictionaries as out of oven chips, sausage, trousers, butter and bangers. In vain does one gently point to other candidates for the role of villain.

Has the tendency to eat snacks got nothing to do with the decline, especially among working-class families, of meals eaten together? Is the high juvenile consumption of sweets disconnected with lapses in parental discipline? Has the growth in demand for quick, processed foods no connection with the increase in the number of mothers who go out to work? If not, mention the possibility: The decline in traditional family life and sex roles is not the sort of candidate a villain should even be considered. Though it should be the family has played an important role in the preservation of culinary traditions and standards.

In this dispute there are at least three fields of competence. First, a medical, scientific and epidemiological one about the links between diet and health. The nutritionists know a lot about this, though their knowledge is less sure and agreed than the Leninists make out; second, a sociological one about why people buy and eat the (unhealthy) foods they do. The nutritionists know next to nothing about this, indeed they know comparatively little about what healthy people do eat and how they remain healthy on it. Their knowledge is mostly of unhealthy people's diet. Third, an economic one about the likely effect of state intervention in food-production, packaging, pricing and advertising.

The Food-Leninists' trick is to establish their competence concerning the nutritional problem; then blur the distinctions between the fields of competence so that the audience accords credibility to their proposed political solution.

But all the knowledge in the world about polysaturated fats is worth nothing if the puzzle is about why people eat sticky buns and whether and how a government could or should stop them.

The author is director of the Social Affairs Unit.

moreover... Miles Kington

Suit the accent to the word

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"A tough, uncompromising game this, with both sides knowing they had been in a battle. It was a gruelling stalemate for forty minutes and then, just when we were expecting a blank sheet at half-time, Martin crossed from the right, Thomson fired in from close range and City crossed over one goal up. No sooner had hostilities resumed than..."

Radio 4 is the home of current affairs double acts, the big fellows plus the quiet one. The big fellow used to be called Francis Williams or William Hardcastle, now he's called Brian Widdlake or Gordon Clough, but the requirements are always the same: a deep, gritty, trustworthy voice, a voice that knows. The quiet fellow has a calmer, lighter voice and reads the news. Together, you'll believe anything they say.

Radio 2 voices tend to wear slippers and have a wee dram in hand ("Very tasty... the late night sound of Sidney Sheldon and the Silver Strides... very mellow, Sidney") while Radio 1 voices are convincingly near-American. ("Right Sidney Sheldon there with his big string groove!") so much so that genuine Americans like Gambacchini and Jensen, the late lamented, sound a bit fake. Then there's John Peel, the only Shrewsbury alumnus to get a Scouse accent pretty near right, Peter Clayton who sounds younger every year, and Humphrey Lyttelton, master of the absent-minded professor pause.

"Hello there, this is Humphrey... er... um... yes, Lyttelton." And what about the Radio 4 school of contorted ticks? How do you get from a chilling Cambodian like a schoolmistress? Yes, that's our preview of *The Killing Fields* at 4 pm. And talking of fields have you ever wondered how sheepdogs manage to get sheep from one to another? Well, at 5 o'clock.

Just one BBC accent? What a load of hogwash. That was Miles Kington talking about just a few of the voices to be heard on BBC radio. There's another chance to hear that talk next Monday at 3 am.



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MR GORBACHOV'S HOUR

The passing of the Chernomir is unlikely to result in any immediate or dramatic change in the USSR or in its relations with the West. He did not do long enough to establish full control of the bureaucratic system or to stamp his image on Soviet society. Unlike Mr Andropov, he did little to encourage reform even in his first months; and after he was incapacitated by illness the ruling apparatus continued without him, guided by men with decades of experience in government. Without a dynamic leader at the head of the Party there was no hope of major improvement in Soviet internal or foreign policy.

As a man long experienced in struggling with the endemic problems of the Soviet economy, Mr Gorbachov might well promote energetically various new projects already circulating in draft proposals - to make the system more efficient. He could prove to be a man with whom Western politicians feel more at home than with Lenin's heirs. Many earnestly have pinned their hopes of improved relations of a more détente Gorbachov administration. But neither a natural desire for cheap credit and advanced technology to strengthen the Soviet economy nor an even more natural wish to avoid a nuclear holocaust makes Mr Gorbachov a new star on the horizon. We have been here before.

It will take years for a shake-up in party organization to have any real effect, to judge by President Andropov's failures. The Gromyko-Ponomarev line in foreign policy will continue at Geneva and other East-West

negotiations. Discontent in Eastern Europe at policies imposed by the Kremlin will not suddenly die away, nor will Moscow's ideological hostility to bourgeois democracy vanish overnight.

The question inevitably arises: Should we make concessions to encourage the new leader? Should President Reagan be more flexible over his Strategic Defence Initiative? In his public statements Mr Gorbachov has shown more interest in encouraging Western European countries and Japan to separate their policies from Washington than in proposing major steps which could lead to genuine progress in reducing tensions between the military blocs. If Mr Gorbachov really wants peace, he should end the war in Afghanistan by withdrawing the occupying forces. That would be the time to discuss concessions.

It is a sad commentary on East-West relations that the morbid Kremlin death watch should assume such importance. There is a widespread tendency to believe that the dangerous hostility which prevails between Moscow and Washington stems from the headline policies of individual leaders, and that after the Chernomir and Reagan administrations there might be more hope of an improvement. But the signing of the Helsinki Final Act in August 1975, widely regarded as the apogee of so-called détente, unfortunately did not mean that international tensions were genuinely receding into history. Even those who, ignoring realities, wish to divide the post-war years into neat chapters of "Cold War" and "Détente" found that the personalities of leaders and the crisis in

East-West relations did not conveniently coincide with their artificial chronological divisions.

The Brezhnev-Carter period was rudely violated by the invasion of Afghanistan, which underlined that the crushing of the Prague Spring in 1968 was a consistent policy of Soviet policy, and not merely a regrettable mistake to be consigned to past history. Mr Andropov was wrongly portrayed in the West as a liberal, or at least as a realist who intended to withdraw the occupation forces; they were, on the contrary, reinforced.

President Chernomir was a stop gap. Like his two predecessors he bravely, but mistakenly, persevered in power long after his strength and ability to make clear sensible decisions were exhausted. His successor is more energetic and can expect to stay in power a very long time.

We may be at the start of a long saga of revision in the structure of the Soviet state, but until Mr Gorbachov actually proves himself, we cannot tell whether he will be able to reform the system which he has inherited sufficiently to face the challenges of the future and to halt its long decline. Until it is clear in the West that Mr Gorbachov is capable of stamping his own mark on the Soviet system, rather than reflecting its unchanging and unpleasant characteristics, caution should be the keynote. Mr Gorbachov has achieved power, but the inherent secrecy of the Soviet system means that neither his own people, nor the outside world, has any idea whether he will use his power wisely, or continue with the depressing tradition of his inheritance.

PAPANDREOU'S THREAT TO GREECE

"In God's me, who rules this country?" Mr Konstantinos Karamanlis said to have exclaimed (learning as Prime Minister of Greece in 1963, that the left wing leader, Gregory Lambrakis, had been murdered by police) during his government's authority. The subsequent investigation by a courageous young magistrate exposed complicity in the high ranks of the police force and contributed to the swing of opinion which led soon afterwards to Mr Karamanlis's defeat and replacement by the veteran leader of the Centre Union, George Papandreu. It was also later immortalized in the film "Z", the ending of which implies that it is the forces behind the murder of Lambrakis were also responsible for the suppression of Greek democracy which followed in 1967.

The ghost of Lambrakis appeared to have been laid in 1974 when the dictatorship was swept away and Mr Karamanlis recalled to preside over the restoration of democracy - a broad-based, more genuine democracy this time, in which left wing parties, including the communist, could compete on equal terms; even more so in 1981 when the Pan Hellenic Socialist Party (PASOK), led by George Papandreu's son, Andreas - the *beau noir* of the right in the 60s, came to power in a free election while Mr Karamanlis as president of the republic, insured the continuity of the state.

Since then Mr Papandreu's government has done some things which alarmed or distressed moderate Greek opinion

and others which profoundly irritated its NATO allies. But to both groups the continued presence of Mr Karamanlis as head of state, holding in reserve important powers, given to him by the constitution he had himself sponsored in 1975, was reassuring. Mr Papandreu himself was widely understood to value this reassurance, and even to count on it to ensure his government's reelection later this year. For that very reason he had himself urged Mr Karamanlis to accept a second presidential term.

The general understanding was, therefore, that Mr Karamanlis would be reelected by parliament this Friday with the support of both major parties. The country could then go forward to a general election under the watchful eye of an umpire respected by both sides.

Now, however, the ghost of Lambrakis has suddenly reappeared. To everyone's astonishment when the Pasok central committee met on Saturday to choose its presidential candidate Mr Papandreu proposed not President Karamanlis but Mr Christos Sartzetakis - the magistrate who was the hero of the Lambrakis affair, and is now a Supreme Court judge. He also proposed that the next parliament should be given constituent powers, so that the president can be stripped of his powers to dissolve parliament and call referenda on his own initiative.

Many Pasok members, who had been reluctant to vote for a president whose *raison d'être* seemed to be to stop them carrying out their full programme, were delighted by this

turn of events. Mr Karamanlis, needless to say, was not. He wished to be president of all the Greeks, not the candidate of the opposition. He has promptly withdrawn.

His own former party, New Democracy, now has to find another candidate in a hurry, or decide to abstain, knowing that no candidate of theirs can beat Mr Sartzetakis in this parliament. Most probably Mr Sartzetakis will just scrape the 180 votes he needs for election on the third ballot. Failing that, parliament will be automatically dissolved and new elections held straight away.

Either way, the general election will now be held in an atmosphere of acutely polarized opinions with the head of state and his powers at the centre of the debate - uncomfortably recalling the repeated clashes over the royal prerogative which preceded the 1967 coup. Mr Papandreu, pre-empting opposition from his left, has confronted the country with an all-or-nothing choice: either it throws him out or it submits to the unrestrained caprice of him and his party.

Greece's allies will not easily conceal their preference for the former choice. But in any case they will regret the unnecessary polarization of Greek politics and will fear its consequences. Especially they will regret that a statesman who they have learned to respect and to whom belongs the credit both for restoring his country to democracy and for bringing it into the European Community should be obliged to leave office in such a painful manner.

TOO LEFT FOR COMFORT

Sunday's provincial election results in the Saarland and West Berlin will be a source of qualified satisfaction to Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democratic party, and a profound relief to its embattled coalition partner, the FDP. The Christian Democrats scored a notable victory in West Berlin, thanks largely to the vigorous leadership of Herr Bernhard Diegen, the Governor Mayor. Their defeat in the Saarland was equally notable, but widely expected. What almost no one expected was the very strong slowing of the FDP in both contests. Perhaps this was partly the achievement of a new party leader, Herr Martin Bagemann, although he has held that position for only a few weeks. Probably it was more due to the groundwork of the local parties. But in Bonn the FDP will once again be saying, like Max Twain, rumours of our death have been greatly exaggerated. This is also good news for the Chancellor, whose coalition government depends on the electoral health of the FDP. Both may now look forward with more confidence to the general election in 1987.

For the longer term, and for West Germany's allies, much

the most interesting result is the clear victory in the Saarland of the Social Democrat Herr Oskar Lafontaine, a politician as ambitious as he is radical. To be sure, local conditions played a large part in his success. A state with fourteen per cent unemployment, and the local steel combine on the verge of bankruptcy, is a natural constituency for the Left. The opposing Christian Democrat candidate was no match for Herr Lafontaine's youthful appeal. But the immediate national significance of the Saarland result for the SPD is that it here, for the first time, reversed the trend of recent years, by taking votes from the Greens rather than vice versa. Indeed, the Greens were trounced. However, Herr Lafontaine did this by stealing the Greens' policy clothes, both on ecological issues (he talks of "ecological socialism") and on defence (he wants West Germany to leave NATO).

Herr Lafontaine's own position inside the national party will obviously be strengthened by this success. He is already being talked of as a possible Social Democrat candidate for Chancellor in 1987. Even those who are not his personal

admirers may be tempted to follow his electoral strategy, in order to outflank the Greens.

Two years ago the SPD was hardly recognisable as the centrist party of Helmut Schmidt. Like the Labour party, it had slid, in the irresponsibility of opposition, towards the unilateralist Left. Like the Labour party, it had done so only at the cost of extreme internal tensions. However, in recent months, the party has been getting painfully back together again, and edging back into the mainstream consensus symbolised by Helmut Schmidt (still far the most popular politician in the Federal Republic). But the rise of Herr Lafontaine, armed with the potent aphorism of electoral success, threatens to upset the balance so precariously regained.

In the short term, this is all good for Chancellor Kohl, just as the leftward disarray of the Labour party is good for Mrs Thatcher. But in the longer term it would be bad for the country, bad for Europe, and bad for the West, if a major democratic party were really to collapse into the left-nationalist postures of Herr Lafontaine. The SPD, and Germany, deserve better.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Stemming tide of State surveillance

From Mr Roy Jenkins, MP for Hillhead (Social Democrat)

Sir, I of course gave permission for Lord Bridge to investigate the issue of warrants for telephone interception during my second period as Home Secretary. I would have been equally happy for him to look at the practice during my first period.

On the narrower criteria Lord Bridge appears costly to exonerate as all. I do not however believe that he exonerates himself. A judge of status and quality ought not in my view to have agreed to conduct such an enquiry within the limitations of time and scope imposed by the Prime Minister. He has made himself appear a poodle of the executive.

I trust that in future Lord Bridge will not be asked to pronounce on matters where the interests of authority and of liberty mingle uncomfortably. He no longer carries independent authority in this field.

On the wider merits of interception I hope and believe that nothing improper was done in my periods of office. Most of those who think themselves to be tapped are suffering from illusions of grandeur. Certainly clickings on the line are not evidence. A more suspicious factor would be a peculiarly good service with no wrong numbers and no background noises over a period. These tests should set most people's minds at rest.

Nevertheless I believe that the present position has become untenable and that the previous practice cannot continue. This is partly because we have become a more inquisitive and iconoclastic society, and partly because this Government has deliberately damaged the nexus of consent. Actions may be taken with the tacit support of 90 per cent

of the House of Commons which should not be done with the support of 60 per cent, particularly if even that lower figure is grossly inflated by the vagaries of the electoral system.

A rolling back of the frontiers of State surveillance is necessary. That ought to be more acceptable to most Conservative MPs than it appears to be. How far can we go?

Criminal warrants (which are requested by the police or the customs authorities) are in my view both acceptable and productive. The gathering of anti-terrorist information must clearly not be impeded. Counter-espionage is legitimate and, if well done, desirable.

That leaves the semi-political activity of M15. I am not convinced that it has been greatly abused, and looking round the world, it is clearly an exaggeration to think that a few hundred people a year (most of them suspected professional criminals) having their telephones tapped is one of the major invasions of human liberty.

Yet, having said that, I have come to the conclusion that this side of M15 has become more trouble than it is worth. It falls over its own feet too often. It arouses more suspicion and complaint than is justified by the results it achieves. It occupies more of the time of relevant Ministers with disputes about its own deficiencies or worse than with considering any useful deposits of information which it provides.

On grounds of utility I would now close down the political side of its activities.

Yours sincerely,
ROY JENKINS,
BARBARA HOUSE,
East Hendred, Oxfordshire.
March 10.

Tapping the NCCL

From Ms Marie Staunton and Ms Barbara Cohen

Sir, Bernard Levin (March 6) should know that the National Council for Civil Liberties has been attacking the lack of accountability of the security services for not a mere few months but for 50 years. It was only similarly determined criticism leading to thorough judicial investigation that revealed the "scandalously inaccurate" records kept by the South Australian Special Branch on "subversives" ranging from judges of the Supreme Court to members of the NCCL and the abuse of personal tax records by the FBI prior to Watergate.

We object to surveillance of NCCL not because we have something to hide (letter, March 4) but because in a free society it is

not for the citizen to prove him or herself innocent of any subversive thought, word or deed, but for the state to justify any intrusion on personal privacy - usually before a judicial authority.

As legal officers of NCCL, we and our predecessors have not only an interest but a duty, like any other solicitor, to protect the confidences of clients. The Government's failure to investigate the surveillance of NCCL's legal officers or to control interceptions under the present Bill so as to prevent professional confidences from being played into the listening ears of the security services should cause all lawyers disquiet.

Yours sincerely,
MARIE STAUNTON,
BARBARA COHEN,
National Council for Civil Liberties,
21 Tabard Street, SE1.

After the pits dispute

From Mr Roger Noddings

Sir, I read yesterday (March 6) Mr Frank Field's letter to you. I feel his views cannot go uncontested.

As I see it, he is making two main points. First, that the cost of the pit dispute (£3 billion or thereabouts) had no deleterious effect on the economy and second, because of this factor, a similar amount could and should be spent on creating, say, 375,000 jobs in the building industry.

These views are mistaken. In the first instance, the economy has undoubtedly been damaged by the need for extra cash. The Government during the year has found the market unwilling to meet this need on rates of interest anticipating a lower PSBR (public sector borrowing requirement), and thus sterling

fell as investors sold Government debt, which in turn forced interest rates up to reflect the higher borrowing requirement.

In the second instance, one must assume that Mr Field would require the extra cash every year if his buildings are not to find themselves back on the dole. Thus, the extra borrowing and higher interest rates would become permanent and before too long would cost many jobs in industries sensitive to the price of money: the retail trade, engineering, brewing and, yes, the building industry.

In any event, the high level of unemployment at present is merely a reflection of previous attempts to bury the problem in a mountain of subsidies. When will people learn? Yours faithfully,
ROGER NODDINGS,
7 Veronica Road, SW17.

Causes of decline

From Dr A. Kelly, FRSE

Sir, The Shorter Oxford English Dictionary defines "entrepreneur" as

a. the director or manager of a public musical institution
b. one who gets up entertainments; whereas Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language, produced in the USA, defines "entrepreneur" as 1. an organizer of an economic venture; esp. one who organizes, owns, manages and assumes the risks of a business 2. one that organizes, promotes, or manages an enterprise or activity of any kind.

Is this perhaps a reason for our poor economic performance?

Yours faithfully,
A. KELLY,
Yardfield,
Church Lane, Worplesdon,
Guildford, Surrey,
March 8.

South Africa boycott

From Mr Madron Seligman, Member of the European Parliament for Sussex West (European Democrat (Conservative))

Sir, After talking to a wide range of leaders of opinion from all political groups in South Africa, I found very few indeed who supported the current campaign for disinvestment. Firstly, if it were effective it would damage primarily those whom it is aimed to help - the urban and rural black Africans and the immigrant workers who come into South Africa in their thousands to find work.

Disinvestment could also be a major economic setback for the neighbouring black nations, such as the BLS states (former British protectorates, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland). Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe, who depend so much on South African supplies and markets.

While Renamo guerrillas continue to destroy Mozambique's rail and road links to the coast, and civil war continues in Angola, a large proportion of the exports from Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi have to reach East London, or some other South African harbour, to be shipped to the markets of the world.

Despite the activities of the

SADCC (Southern African Development Co-ordinating Conference), which aims at making South Africa's neighbours less dependent upon her, Zambia still relies on South Africa to take 33 per cent of her exports.

Swaziland draws 90 per cent of her imports from South Africa. Botswana 87 per cent, and Zimbabwe 27.5 per cent. This does not include clandestine indirect imports and exports via third countries.

Mozambique depends upon South Africa to take 9,575,000 megawatt hours of electricity per year from her large hydroelectric power station at Cahora Bassa. (This is, however, frustrated at the moment by Renamo guerrillas' sabotage of the power line.)

In this and many other ways neighbouring states stand to suffer severely from the effects of disinvestment or boycott campaigns on the South African economy.

There are over 1.1 million immigrant black people from neighbouring states now employed in mining, construction, transport, manufacturing, agricultural and domestic jobs; 150,000 of those work for American subsidiaries. This means that, with their families, some million souls depend on American investment for their livelihood. Many more depend on British and European subsidiaries.

Fair play on the football field

From Mr Hugh Green

Sir, When Stuart Jones writes (March 5) "Sunderland... will be without the suspended Elliott for the final. That, compared to the problems that Chelsea will face after a Football Association inquiry, seems minimal," his apparent indifference to the situation is surely not caused by an unawareness of the injustice involved, but rather by the regularity with which the same injustice has occurred in the past.

If Shaun Elliott does indeed miss the Milk Cup Final it will be the fourth time in as many years that the captain of a side (to say nothing of the other members of the team) has been barred from participating in a Wembley final.

The system of suspending players who have been booked too often is widely accepted, but are the football authorities realistic in treating a Cup Final in the same way as any other game for this purpose? Sunderland will play 42 league games this season, but on March 24 will play in their first Cup Final for 13 years. They are unlikely to play in another before Shaun Elliott retires.

What should be the highlight of a particular player's career is to be taken away from him by a combination of unfortunate timing and intransigent and unsympathetic rules. The excuse in the past has been, "It is an unfortunate circumstance, but we cannot make exceptions." Why not? What are exceptions for if not exceptional circumstances?

Our national game, at present, has many ailments, most of which the authorities are powerless to correct. They can ill afford to neglect the rare opportunities they do get to make decisions that will benefit the game as a whole. It would be a positive move were they to set up an effective appeals procedure before March 24 rather than allowing the present petty system to claim another luckless victim.

Yours sincerely,
HUGH GREEN,
45 Allstree Road, SW6.

Setting free the buses

From Mr Theodor Schmidt

Sir, As a visitor to Britain I find the present controversy about bus regulation both amusing and unfortunate.

We in Switzerland have a postal bus network which in most cases works very well indeed. All rural buses are run by the Post Office and are used also for delivering mail from head to sub-post offices. This double use is very economical and some of the inevitable losses on minor routes are borne by the profits of the mail service.

The advantages of such a system are reliable, frequent services to most towns and villages; complete co-operation with the railways, including through tickets; all services, listed in a national timetable. Rural services can be run by local operators, but must conform to the operating and safety standards maintained by the Post Office. Austria and Germany also have similar systems.

This concept is, of course, the very opposite to what the British Government is trying to do with its deregulation ideas. It will be interesting to see whether the proposed free-for-all competition philosophy can get anywhere near the results of the Swiss co-ordinated system, which, as far as I can tell, is superior to the present British system and costs the taxpayer less.

Sincerely yours,
T. SCHMIDT,
C. F. Meyer-Strasse 6,
CH-4059 Basel,
Switzerland,
March 4.

Truly dreadful

From Mrs L. A. F. Lewis

Sir, Sir Anthony Hayward (March 1) and your Correspondent (March 7) are both right about *The City of Dreadful Night*. Kipling wrote two works with this title. The better known describes Lahore, but there was also a series of articles (reprinted in *From Sea to Sea*) about Calcutta: its assembly, opium dens and brothels, and the terrible stink of its drains.

Yours faithfully,
LISA A. F. LEWIS,
Cappasdale Cottage,
Slade End,
Brightwell-cum-Sotwell,
Wallingford,
Oxfordshire,
March 7.

ON THIS DAY

MARCH 12 1900

The extract below is taken from a long article describing tactics and actions in the South African War. Lord Roberts had arrived in the country in January 1900 as commander-in-chief.

Mafeking was relieved on May 17. Dum-Dum bullets were the generic term to describe forms of expanding bullets which on impact cause ugly, gaping wounds. They were used by the British during frontier fighting in India. The name is derived from the arsenal at Dum-Dum, Bengal.

THE MILITARY SITUATION

There is no further news from Mafeking, for which great anxiety must be felt. The latest telegram dated February 1900 stated that "dysentery and stomach evils" were "rife among the garrison," and that "the cheerfulness of the men of the early days of the siege has almost deserted us."

The possibility that the loose organizations of the Boers, their want of real discipline, and the unscrupulousness of some of their leaders might lead to a general disregard of the rules of the siege has almost deserted us. The possibility that the loose organizations of the Boers, their want of real discipline, and the unscrupulousness of some of their leaders might lead to a general disregard of the rules of the siege has almost deserted us. The possibility that the loose organizations of the Boers, their want of real discipline, and the unscrupulousness of some of their leaders might lead to a general disregard of the rules of the siege has almost deserted us.

There is some evidence that actual explosive bullets have been used by the Boers. It is difficult to understand how this policy device could be expected to deceive any one as ammunition boxes are, of course, never thus inscribed. There is some evidence that actual explosive bullets have been used by the Boers. It is difficult to understand how this policy device could be expected to deceive any one as ammunition boxes are, of course, never thus inscribed.

The Boers have been reported to have fired from comparatively large-bore sporting rifles, since the calibre of the Mauser is too small to allow of the introduction into the bullet of an effective amount of explosive substance. The Boers have been reported to have fired from comparatively large-bore sporting rifles, since the calibre of the Mauser is too small to allow of the introduction into the bullet of an effective amount of explosive substance.

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The Boers have been reported to have fired from comparatively large-bore

Diners Club offers a second card. Free. What you do with it is your business.

Now don't confuse this with offers to let members of your family have a card.

That's a different story entirely.

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CAN

THE TIMES
Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

You must always have your card available when claiming.

| No. | Company | Price | Ch/g | Price | Ch/g | Price | Ch/g | Price | Ch/g |
|-----|---------------------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|
| 1 | Griffiths | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 2 | Land Securities | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | Beazer (CH) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | Allied Lloyds | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 5 | Sarmad | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 6 | Bedford | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 7 | Law & Phipps | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 8 | De Land | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 9 | MEPC | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 10 | Barrow & Sons | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 11 | HAT | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 12 | Costan | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 13 | RMC | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 14 | BPS Industries | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 15 | Blue Circle | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 16 | Pochins | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 17 | Magnet & Smith | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 18 | Monk (A) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 19 | Crook (D) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 20 | IDC | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 21 | Norris & Peacock | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 22 | Fisher (A) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 23 | Tesco | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 24 | Mathews (Barnard) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 25 | Nuffield | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 26 | Dee | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 27 | Needles | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 28 | Bevan | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 29 | Cadbury-Schwepp | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 30 | RHM | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 31 | Hawley | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 32 | Evered | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 33 | Jackson (J&H) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 34 | Howden | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 35 | Goring Kerr | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 36 | Harrold | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 37 | Jones & Shipman | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 38 | GKN | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 39 | Evros | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 40 | Kidder (Rin Taylor) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

| MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT | TOTAL |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| | | | | | | |

1984/85 High Low Company Price Ch/g Price Ch/g Price Ch/g Price Ch/g

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

| No. | Company | Price | Ch/g | Price | Ch/g | Price | Ch/g | Price | Ch/g |
|-----|---------------------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|
| 1 | Griffiths | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 2 | Land Securities | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | Beazer (CH) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | Allied Lloyds | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 5 | Sarmad | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 6 | Bedford | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 7 | Law & Phipps | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 8 | De Land | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 9 | MEPC | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 10 | Barrow & Sons | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 11 | HAT | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 12 | Costan | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 13 | RMC | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 14 | BPS Industries | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 15 | Blue Circle | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 16 | Pochins | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 17 | Magnet & Smith | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 18 | Monk (A) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 19 | Crook (D) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 20 | IDC | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 21 | Norris & Peacock | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 22 | Fisher (A) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 23 | Tesco | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 24 | Mathews (Barnard) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 25 | Nuffield | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 26 | Dee | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 27 | Needles | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 28 | Bevan | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 29 | Cadbury-Schwepp | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 30 | RHM | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 31 | Hawley | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 32 | Evered | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 33 | Jackson (J&H) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 34 | Howden | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 35 | Goring Kerr | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 36 | Harrold | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 37 | Jones & Shipman | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 38 | GKN | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 39 | Evros | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 40 | Kidder (Rin Taylor) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

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|----|--------------------------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|------|
| 1 | Griffiths | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 2 | Land Securities | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | Beazer (CH) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | Allied Lloyds | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 5 | Sarmad | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 6 | Bedford | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 7 | Law & Phipps | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 8 | De Land | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 9 | MEPC | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 10 | Barrow & Sons | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 11 | HAT | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 12 | Costan | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 13 | RMC | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 14 | BPS Industries | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 15 | Blue Circle | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 16 | Pochins | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 17 | Magnet & Smith | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 18 | Monk (A) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 19 | Crook (D) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 20 | IDC | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 21 | Norris & Peacock | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 22 | Fisher (A) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 23 | Tesco | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 24 | Mathews (Barnard) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 25 | Nuffield | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 26 | Dee | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 27 | Needles | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 28 | Bevan | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 29 | Cadbury-Schwepp | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 30 | RHM | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 31 | Hawley | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 32 | Evered | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 33 | Jackson (J&H) | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 34 | Howden | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 35 | Goring Kerr | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 36 | Harrold | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 37 | Jones & Shipman | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 38 | GKN | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 39 | Evros | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 |
| 40 | Kidder (Rin Taylor)</td> | | | | | | | | |

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Lorrho may have more to say on Fraser

Note what I do, not what I say, might be a suitable message for Roland (Tiny) Rowland to offer his many supporters. Come the weekend Mr Rowland's Lorrho was firing on all cylinders having been cleared by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, though not yet by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Mr Norman Tebbit, to renew the bid for House of Fraser which was officially stalled in 1981. An onslaught on the Al-Fayed board, was expected any moment as reason for the Egyptian family's approach to be referred in its turn to the Commission.

If it came it was not too noticeable. By Monday afternoon, precisely as predicted in this column on Saturday, the Egyptians had bought their way to control of the market, declaring their offer unconditional at \$1.03 per cent of Fraser shares without having to raise the terms of their offer.

But who had made this process so easy? Why, none other than Mr Rowland, who sold his 6.3 per cent stake in the morning. It was put straight through the market to the bidders. That was the same Mr Rowland, in his role as brilliant dealer, who sold the Al-Fayed's their original 29.9 per cent stake last November, adding another £10 million profit for Lorrho to the £70 million he registered then.

Lorrho maintains for the record that it still wishes to mount its own takeover bid, at a date and price yet to be determined. That depends on Mr Tebbit referring the Al-Fayed's bid to the Commission and the Commission rejecting it, since the brothers have let it be known they would await a decision. As noted, such a reference would hardly go down well at tomorrow's Dowling Street banquet, where Mohamed Al-Fayed will accompany his friend and leader President Mubarak. Beyond gut xenophobia at another of Britain's prestige-companies falling into foreign ownership, it would not make much sense either.

There is no threat to competition and no threat of ensuing turmoil and damage to the company that Fraser's chairman, Professor Rowland Smith or his board can detect. This is tough on Mr Rowlands, whose own bid likewise had no bad implications for competition, jobs, exports, regional development or whatever. Under today's rules Lorrho might have had its way, but Mr Rowland's sense of injustice is hardly sufficient reason to go through the charade of vetting by the ever-flexible Commission.

And if Mr Rowland was still fighting with one hand tied behind his back, he also knew that he might have to bid £700 million to overcome the Al-Fayed's strong position. Once Lorrho sold yesterday, there was no reason for the other market dominoes to stand out, since once the bid went above 50 per cent, Fraser shares might well go to a discount. Perhaps that is the end of it. But Mr Rowlands, having acted so swiftly and decisively, may still have plenty to say.

Beating a path to China

After lagging sadly in trade with China, British industry has received a useful fillip from Lord Young's mission, whose members are now returning to their desks. Any fly on the boardroom wall at Hammersmith House, west London, tomorrow would probably learn more about what it really means to do business with China than from any of the public statements made by the senior industrialists who took part in Lord Young's mission.

British Oxygen is planning to become the first foreign company to buy its way into an existing Chinese company, with the BOC chairman, Mr Richard Giordano, having signed a letter of intent to acquire a half-share in the Wu Song chemical company while in Shanghai.

Mr Giordano - described by a fellow-mission member as being "no romantic" - is clearly enthusiastic about filling the big gap in BOC's spread of Far East interests, which last year contributed a quarter to both group turnover of £2.34 billion and operating profits of £216 million. But he fully appreciates the problems that lie in his path.

The biggest problem is that China has no established company law, and a key issue for BOC will be how it will be allowed to repatriate any profits. "It is still in the process of being formulated, and has been for many years," says one China trade specialist. "There is still so much

being done on a test-case basis."

There are now hundreds of joint manufacturing ventures in China. But the bulk, probably more than 90 per cent, have been established in special economic zones by "overseas Chinese". They have the inherited advantage of being able to "think Chinese" and so explore uncharted commercial territory with a speed denied to Western counterparts.

If BOC does decide to part with, perhaps, £30 million in many months time for a stake in Wu Song, it will have established a test-case for others to follow, at least in part.

It will have plenty of guidance available. Sir Eric Sharp, for example also returned from the mission this week, and to chair a Cable and Wireless board meeting today, having signed a memorandum of understanding to develop telecommunications services in the fast-growing Yangtze Delta, and for new telecommunications Technology Development Centre in Peking - and so increase his company's considerable involvement in China.

One of Mrs Thatcher's objectives in fielding a team of 11 senior industrialists was that a well of understanding and expertise about China should be created from which the rest of British industry could gradually draw.

The problem is that, while recognizing the potential, and what the threat of a faster-moving western rival could do to that potential, companies are still nervous about rushing in. They are frightened of being the test-cases which went wrong.

The Chinese, it is now widely understood, are extremely price sensitive; and British Aerospace's director, Mr John Glascock, failed to clinch a long-awaited initial order for 10 BAe 146 aircraft even though he lowered the price-tag while on the trip.

What makes the likes of Cable and Wireless and BOC so attractive to the Chinese, though, is their technology. Gas-making may be a mature art. But the application of those gases to the newer industrial processes, in electronics and chemicals, for instance, is a secret which the company has demonstrated it will impart freely to overseas subsidiaries.

That is its biggest bargaining point and, if more deals are to be signed before the Chinese premier, Zhao Ziyang, visits Britain in June and the Queen goes to China next year, more and more British companies will have to show that they have the courage to put a measure of their technology up-front. They will have to put more resources into long-term marketing in China, where most lag sadly behind American, Japanese or German competitors. Otherwise the momentum will be lost.

Coal loss could cost us £2 each a week

Ian MacGregor admitted at the weekend that the National Coal Board would make a loss in 1985-86, which can hardly have come as a surprise to anyone. But how large will that loss be? According to the stockbrokers Alan Coats and Matthew Windridge of Quilter Goodison, it could be £2 billion, equivalent to a "negative dividend" of £2 per taxpayer per week. The analysts arrive at the frightening total on the basis that the NCB will be facing not nearly full costs but all sorts of extra costs, not least from higher wage rates. But these extra costs will not be compensated in revenue.

The Central Electricity generating Board, the main customer for coal, will not pay significantly higher prices for coal in a slack market, probably £43.10 a tonne against £41.20.

Life is full of surprises. Miners keen to get stuck in to pay off their debts could improve productivity from healthy fear and there is plenty of scope for extra quotas for contractors for profitable open-cast coal production. Even so, the figures will look terrible. Mr MacGregor and his colleagues must be asking themselves tough questions about how far they want to maximize short-term output when they are anxious to put their revised pit closure programme through the new more laborious review machinery as soon as possible, to take account of longer-term limitations on demand.

Meanwhile, as the brokers note, there ought to be happy days again for equipment manufacturers who can deliver the productivity the industry now even more urgently needs.

Pound up 1.87 cents despite worsening inflation outlook

By David Smith Economics Correspondent

The pound jumped by 1.87 cents to \$1.0880 yesterday as the dollar ran into heavy selling against all currencies. Official figures showing a heightening of inflationary pressures in Britain failed to dent the pound.

The dollar suffered losses as dealers reassessed the prospects of a surge in American interest rates on the back of strong growth in the economy.

The nervousness in the markets since last Wednesday, when the Federal Reserve chairman, Mr Paul Volcker, said the dollar's strength had prompted an easing of monetary policy, turned into further selling yesterday.

An easing of the key Federal funds rate to 8 1/4 per cent, with German state election results showing losses by the Green party and talk of higher European interest rates, encouraged a shift of dollars into the European currencies.

(The dollar lost 5 1/2 pence to DM3.385 against the mark, its index dropping 1.6 to 153.8.

PRODUCER PRICE INFLATION

| | Input costs | Manufacturing | Manufacturing | Output prices | Manufacturing | Manufacturing |
|----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Manufacturing | Manufacturing | Manufacturing | Manufacturing | Manufacturing | Manufacturing |
| | Index | Index | Index | Index | Index | Index |
| 1984 Q1 | 7.2 | 5.3 | 5.9 | 5.7 | | |
| Q2 | 8.7 | 8.1 | 8.3 | 5.6 | | |
| Q3 | 7.5 | 8.7 | 8.2 | 5.5 | | |
| Q4 | 9.3 | 12.5 | 8.2 | 5.7 | | |
| Nov | 9.3 | 12.6 | 8.1 | 5.6 | | |
| Dec | 8.9 | 12.7 | 8.0 | 5.7 | | |
| 1985 Jan | 8.8 | 13.2 | 8.2 | 6.3 | | |
| Feb | 9.5 | 14.6 | 8.1 | 6.3 | | |

Source: Department of Trade & Industry

Sterling, in contrast, showed strength, the sterling index rising 0.5 to 71.6. As well as gaining against the dollar, the pound rose a third of a penny to DM3.6318 against the mark.

The pound was helped by a slight firming of spot oil prices.

Two factors which could have upset the pound, Lloyds Bank's forecast of an early base rate cut and poor producer price figures, had little impact.

The producer price figures showed that manufacturing industry's material and fuel costs rose by 1.2 per cent in February, largely due to the 3 per cent decline in sterling against the dollar during the month. The 12-month rate rose to 9.5 per cent, its highest for 18 months.

Even so, manufacturing industry's output prices rose by

only 0.5 per cent in February, and the 12-month rate declined from 6.2 to 6.1 per cent.

However, a more disturbing picture of the effect of sterling's weakness on industry is provided by the figures for manufacturing industry, excluding food, drink and tobacco.

These show that material and fuel costs surged by 1.7 per cent between January and February to stand 14.6 per cent up on a year earlier, the highest 12-month rate for three years.

Manufacturing industry has begun to pass on these costs, with output prices, again excluding food, drink and tobacco, up by 0.8 per cent in February. The 12-month rate of output price inflation increased to 6.5 per cent, from 6.3 per cent in January and 5.7 per cent in December.

Whitehall statisticians expect a further boost to this measure of inflation in the coming months.

MPs attack oil 'price fixing'

By David Young Energy Correspondent

The Government should admit its price-fixing relationship with Opec and stop using the energy industries - oil, gas and electricity - for raising revenue, an all-party Commons committee said yesterday.

The Energy Select Committee, which has been investigating the role of the British National Oil Corporation, the state body which fixes North Sea oil prices, said yesterday that the Government should not allow public sector borrowing requirement policy to be the prime determinant of its energy policy.

The committee has been examining the Government's award of a second £25 million tranche of public money to B.N.O.C., which has been losing money as it buys in 800,000 barrels a day of North Sea crude at its official price of \$28.65 and



Ian Lloyd: dislike of cartels

sells it on the spot market at a loss of up to \$2 a barrel.

Yesterday, Mr Ian Lloyd, the committee chairman, said it was feared that further state aid for B.N.O.C. would be needed. The committee report said no one in

Opec believed that the British Government did not involve itself in the setting of the North Sea oil price.

Mr Lloyd said: "We are in a position today that the Government does consult with Opec. I don't like cartels. I don't like to see Governments get involved with cartels because it gives them some respectability."

The committee report went on: "The costs of energy to the UK and to the Western world are of critical importance if a thriving economy is to be achieved."

"Collaboration with the Opec cartel, tax cuts financed from Windfall North Sea revenue and the cushioning of the oil companies from market realities are all secondary to the long-term economic well-being of the UK and its Western allies. A gradual move towards lower energy costs will help achieve that well-being."

Foster says it may accept bid

By Our City Staff

Foster Brothers Clothing, the retail chain based in the West Midlands, announced yesterday that it was in talks with a third party which may lead to a recommended offer for that company.

Sears Holding, owners of Selfridges department store and Britain's largest shoe retailer, is expected to announce a bid for Foster at between 230p and 230p a share either today or tomorrow.

Sears' chief executive, Mr Geoffrey Maitland Smith, said at the weekend he was looking closely at the situation, but declined to comment on yesterday's announcement from Foster.

Foster is also on the receiving end of an unwanted bid from the shoe retailer Ward White. Ward White's bid is worth £92.1 million against an expected price from Sears of between £103.1 million and £107.7 million.

Foster shares rose 20p to 238p yesterday. Ward White eased 1p to 236p on expectations that it will have to raise its bid significantly if it has any chance of staying in the contest.

The first closing date for its offer is Friday.

Foster Bros trades through more than 700 shops in Britain, including Millelts camping and leisurewear shops and Adams childrenswear as well as Foster menswear shops.

Taxable profits in the year to the end of last month are expected to fall to about £5.7 million.

However, profits this year are expected to bounce back to at least £9 million.

Sears Holdings has been looking for a suitable British acquisition since its attempt to reorganise the British mail order business, through the merger of Grattan and Empire Stores, with an injection of capital from Sears was rebuffed by Empire two years ago.

Infinitrac pays £19m for Goode Durrant

By Allison Eadie

Goode Durrant & Murray, the trade finance, banking, housebuilding and retailing group, has been taken over by the private company Infinitrac in a deal valuing it at £19.2 million.

Infinitrac is controlled by Mr Michael Waring, a 38-year-old South African who will become chief executive of Goode Durrant. Infinitrac will retain a 29.14 per cent stake in GDM and a further 34.72 per cent has been placed with institutions by The English Association Trust acting for Mr Waring.

The present chairman of GDM, Mr Lionel Robinson, will retain his position.

Mr Waring, who sold his business interests in South Africa between 1978 and 1983, intends to build up GDM particularly in the area of trade finance and trading of physical commodities.

He trained in the commo-

dities physicals trade in Switzerland and South America before building up the F R Waring Group, a Johannesburg-based trading house. He held a 7 per cent stake and was a director of Finansbank, a South African merchant bank.

This is his first significant deal in Britain. He intends to limit GDM's areas of expansion to English speaking parts of the world such as South Africa, Australasia, North America and Britain.

Minority shareholders are being offered 80 cash per share by Infinitrac (the takeover price), if they wish to sell out. The shares will be placed with institutions. The board of GDM intends to retain the Stock Exchange listing.

Goode Durrant made pretax profits of £2.57 million in the year to October 31, 1984, a 2 per cent decline on 1983 profits, on turnover nearly 5 per cent higher at £87.6 million.

Shop sales under the weather

By Derek Harris Commercial Editor

Retail sales slipped last month compared with levels over the past few months, including the Christmas and New Year period. But the growth trend in shop sales continued although it was described as "fragile" by the Retail Consortium.

Bad weather which affected most of Britain last month could have been a key factor in stemming sales and the effect of increased mortgage rates was also being felt.

The seasonally adjusted volume retail sales index last month was provisionally put at 13.9 by the Department of Trade and Industry (1980 = 100). This compares with 112.8 in January and 117 in December, the average of these months coming out at 114.8, which most observers regard as a closer reflection of the Christmas and New Year sales period.

The February figure is below the level of the fourth quarter of last year but in the three months December to February sales were up 0.5 per cent compared with the previous three months and 5 per cent more than in the same period a year before.

The value of sales, non-seasonally adjusted, was provisionally estimated as being 8 per cent higher than in the same month last year. If January and February are taken together the sales value was 9 per cent up.

Real growth compared with February last year was about 4 per cent, the Retail Consortium estimated. This means the upward trend in sales was continuing. It said there was cautious optimism for sales progress the rest of this year.

With shops stocked with new spring lines clothing and footwear sales were hit by last month's bad weather according to trade reports going to the Consortium. The one bright spot was children's wear because half-term holidays coincided with milder weather.

IN BRIEF

More cheap holidays

Thomson Holidays, Britain's biggest package tour operator, yesterday launched another brochure offering low-price holidays in Spain in an attempt to boost flagging bookings.

About 40,000 summer packages are on offer, two thirds of which are in Spain and the rest on the Venetian and Adriatic rivers in Italy.

The lowest price for a week's holiday is £69, in Majorca in May. The average price for a week in high season will be about £180 compared with just over £200 in Thomson's regular brochures.

Unlike the bargain brochure brought out by Thomson last month, offering 100,000 low-price Spanish holidays in unspecified hotels, the new cheap brochure will allow clients to choose their accommodation.

Talks on 3i

The clearing banks and the Bank of England are expected to have further talks soon on the possible sale of Investors in Industry (3i), after a report by the merchant bank Morgan Grenfell.

Trusthouse Forte is still keen on bidding for the Savoy Hotels group - but not at current prices.

Lord Forte told his shareholders yesterday that he still wanted the group, but at a price not much different from his unsuccessful 1981 offer.

ABC rumour

Shares of American Broadcasting Co were trading higher in strong volume on renewed rumours that the company may be the target of a takeover, stock analysts said.

Fuel drive

Romania yesterday announced plans to step up production of oil, coal and electric power in an attempt to overcome a severe energy shortage that is threatening the country's economy. For the past two months, Romania has banned private car driving to save fuel.

Abbey National, the second largest building society, is increasing the cost of household insurance by up to two-thirds. Premium cost will rise by 44 per cent and there will be compulsory increase in the basic sum assured of up to 24 per cent.

Minister goes

Mr Hsu Li-teh, Taiwan's Economics Minister, resigned yesterday to assume "moral responsibility" for what officials have described as Taiwan's worst financial scandal, which involved "loan irregularities" at the Tenth Credit Co-operative.

Talks fail

Protracted negotiations for a standby credit from the International Monetary Fund to help Tanzania meet its financial obligations have ended without agreement.

BUDGET BRIEFING

Compromise on VAT looks likely

This has been heralded as the Budget when expenditure taxes are boosted to finance an income tax cut. The tax emphasis would be switched from direct taxes, notably income tax, to indirect taxation, mainly value-added tax and excise duties.

In his first Budget a year ago, the Chancellor extended VAT coverage to hot takeaway food and building alterations, and he and his ministers made no secret of the fact that a further widening of the VAT net was in prospect.

That, together with the expectation that this year's Budget would radically reform personal taxes, meant that books, newspapers, gas and electricity, children's clothing and shoes, commercial property and, notwithstanding prime ministerial commitments, food, looked vulnerable to a tax-reforming Chancellor.

All these goods are zero-rated. Taxing them at 15 per cent would provide the Chancellor with a mouth-watering £7 billion extra. This is enough to allow the reduction in the basic rate of income tax to the 1979 commitment of 25p in the pound at a stroke, and still leave £1.5 billion for other things.

A lot of water has flowed under the bridge - and a lot of money out of sterling - since the autumn, when a massive widening of the VAT net looked possible. With the exception of basic foods and new housing, everything looked fair game to the Treasury.

The inflationary implications of sterling's decline have changed the picture dramatically. The worst thing the Treasury could do now, it is argued, would be to repeat Sir Geoffrey Howe's mistake of June 1979, when higher-VAT combined with an underlying surge in

EXCISE DUTIES: EFFECTS OF REVALORIZING

| | Current duty including VAT | Price change revenue VAT | Full-year effect (£m) |
|--------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Beer (pint) | 17.3p | 0.9p | 85 |
| Wine (75cl bottle) | 83.4p | 3.5p | 25 |
| Spirits (bottle) | 84.6p | 25.4p | 30 |
| Cigarettes (20) | 78.2p | 3.6p | 115 |
| Petrol (gallon) | 78.0p | 4.3p | 210 |

Source: Treasury

REVENUE AND PRICE EFFECTS OF APPLYING VAT

| | Tax revenue (£m) | Increase in prices (%) |
|------------------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| All zero-rated items (excluding housing) | 7,000 | +4.2% |
| Food | 4,250 | +2.2% |
| Fuel, light and power | 1,500 | +1 |
| Children's clothes | 450 | +1/2 |
| Books and newspapers | 375 | +1/4 |
| Public transport | 425 | +1/4 |
| Exempt items (excluding housing) | 525 | +1/2 |

Source: IFS estimates

costs to produce a 22 per cent inflation rate by 1980.

Politically, despite a huge Parliamentary majority, the Government's position has become more fragile over recent months. Mr Lawson is under pressure not to offend too many special interest groups, many of whom have lobbied against the extension of VAT.

So what will he do? The easiest course would be to do nothing, simply raising excise duties in line with inflation, and adding 1p to a pint of beer, 3p to a bottle of wine and a packet of cigarettes, and 25p to a bottle of spirits.

There is already a rough balance between revenue from the expenditure taxes, expected to total £35 billion this year, and income tax, expected to bring in £34 billion.

Mr Lawson, however, will not easily be diverted from his goals, and increasing the indirect tax will be in the Budget if it is one of them.

Thus, the most plausible package is one which picks on a few of the less controversial zero-rated items and brings them within the VAT net. New non-residential construction, newspaper advertising and certain luxury foods come into this category, involving a modest boost to VAT revenues of around £300 million.

A further move would be to introduce VAT on books, newspapers, children's clothing and footwear, worth up to £350 million, but these would carry major political risks and look unlikely.

There is a much greater possibility that VAT could be

introduced on fuel, light and power. This could be justified as a "Scargill surcharge," forcing consumers to meet the higher costs of power generation during the miners' strike, without distorting the energy market as a levy on electricity would. It could then be continued indefinitely, bringing in £1.5 billion a year if charged at the full rate.

An alternative, backdoor way of boosting VAT revenue, and paving the way for a future substantial widening of VAT coverage, would be to switch from zero-rating to exemption.

Producers of zero-rated goods can reclaim the VAT they have paid on inputs; producers of goods classified as exempt cannot. Changing VAT status in this way could bring in between £500 million and £1 billion, with muted effects on the retail prices index and a minimum of political damage. Even so, the National Book Committee has estimated that it would be equivalent to an 8.5 per cent VAT rate.

The EEC sixth directive allowed, for a transitional period, the continuation of zero-rating in Britain. It also allowed VAT exemption, mainly on financial services, as in the rest of the EEC.

Thus, it appears that the Treasury is locked in to the current range of zero-rated items and could not switch them to exempt status without breaking EEC rules.

One hardy Budget perennial is the abolition of the road fund licence on cars, to be replaced by a bigger tax on petrol. With petrol already touching £2 a gallon, and the impact of higher petrol prices on the inflation rate, action is unlikely.

David Smith
Economics Correspondent

Investors turn to high tech property

High technology properties, hybrid office and industrial buildings, are proving increasingly attractive to investors who are switching their money away from more traditional industrial buildings into this relatively new sector.

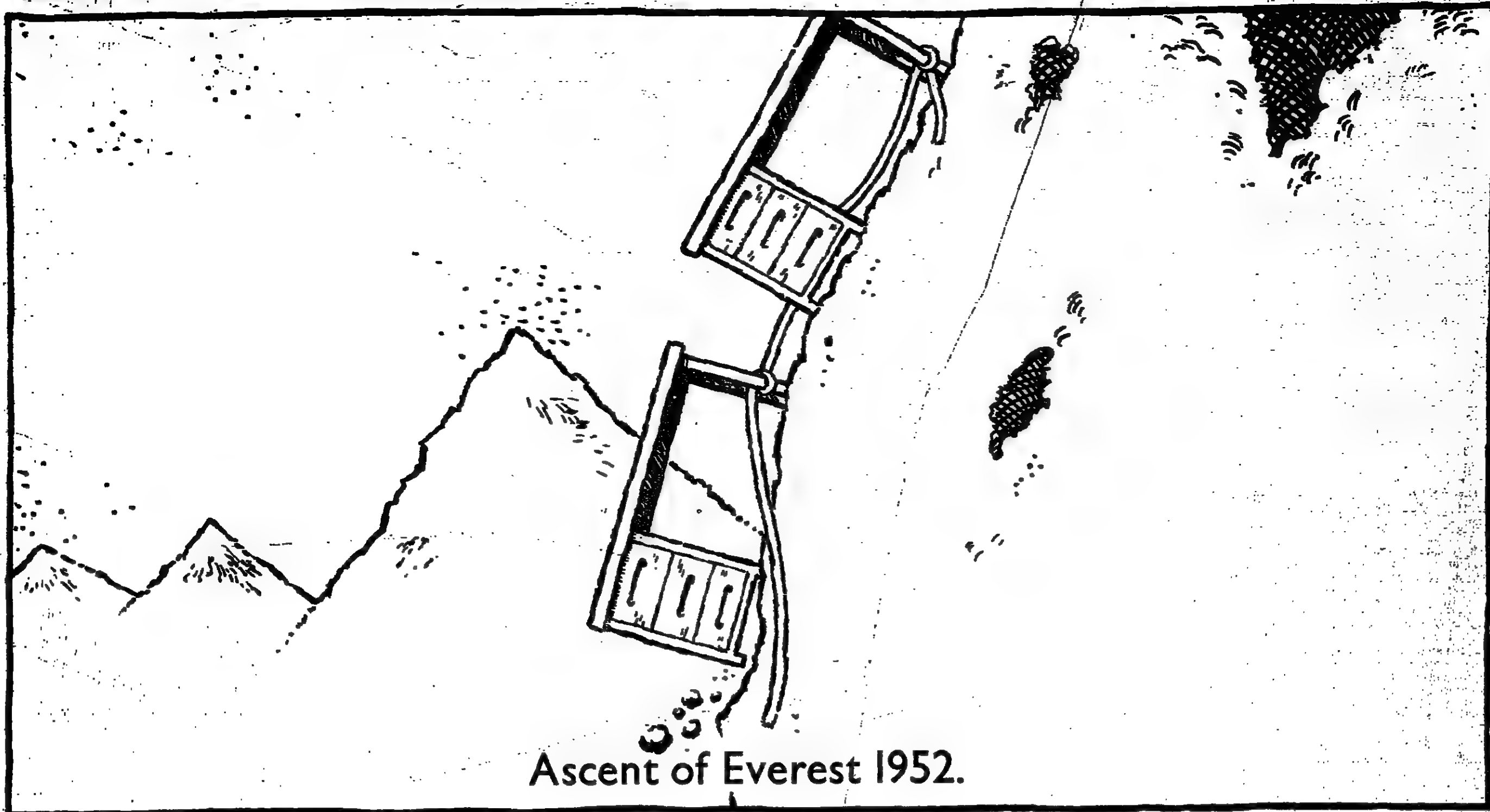
In its latest investment report Healey & Baker, the estate agents, says that yields for top quality, well located high technology schemes are 6.75 per cent compared with 7.25 per cent for the conventional industrial shed.

The lowest yields for the hybrid buildings are to be found around the M25 and M4 around areas where demand is motorways where demand is high. But elsewhere high technology yields are much higher and there is a danger of an oversupply of space, according to Healey & Baker.

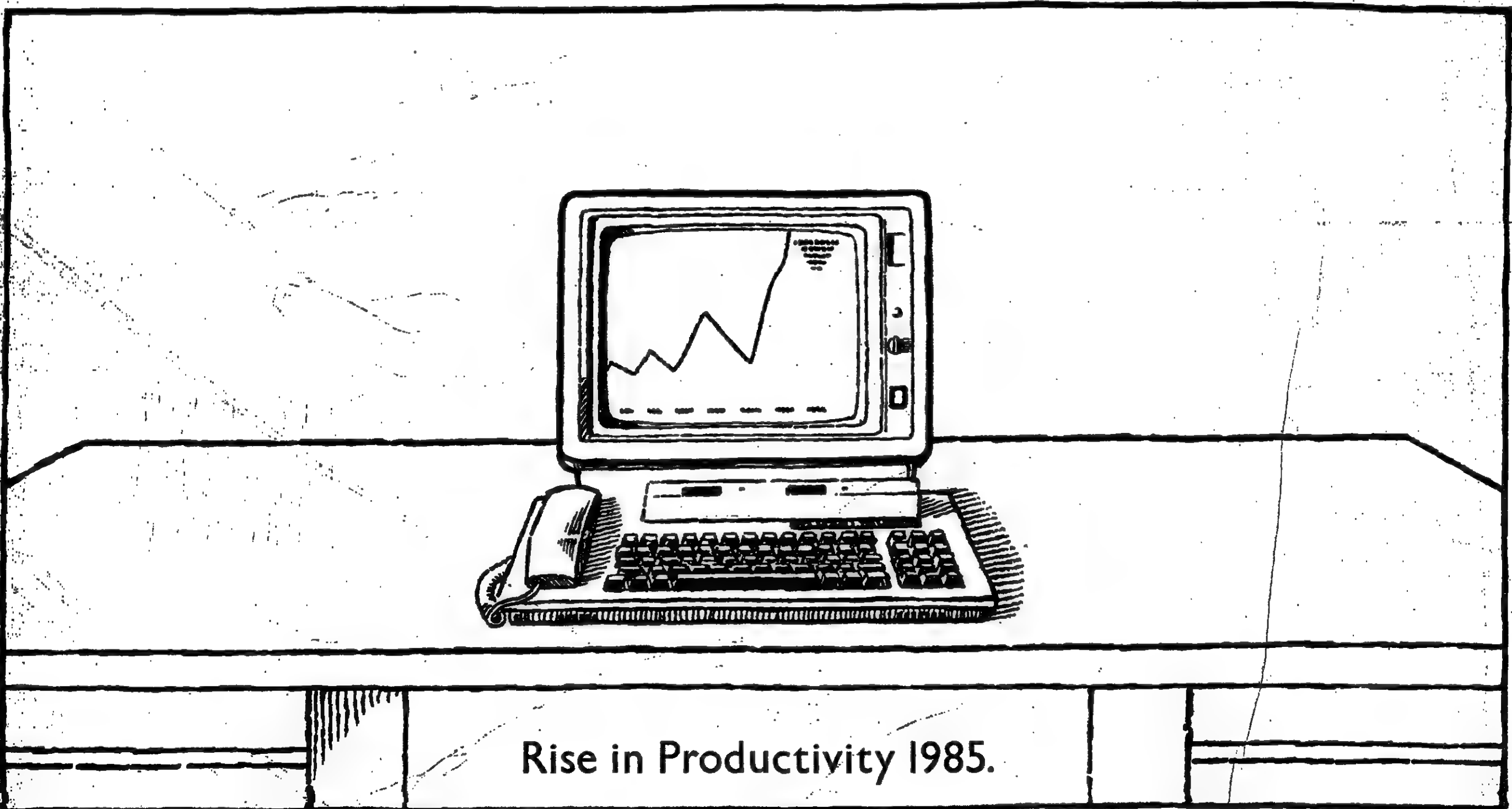
MARKET SUMMARY

| STOCK MARKETS | MAIN PRICE CHANGES |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| FT Ind Ord 989.2(+1.1) | RISES: |
| FT-A All Share 222.09(+2.69) | Citic 13 |
| FT Govt Securities 30.85(+0.35) | Dunlop 65 + |
| FT-SE 100 1290.8(+2.2) | Antofagasta Hldgs 285 + |
| Bargains: 28,834 | Ingall Inds 89 + |
| | Monument Oil & Gas 24 |
| | Syntrel 8 + |
| | A.I. Ind Products 48 |
| | Yelveton Inds 29 |
| | Sangers 53 |
| | Marling Inds 86 |
| | Tricor Inds 218 + |
| | Burnett & Hellams 55 |
| | Barham Gp 440 + |
| | Suster Bros 228 + |
| | Sudjet 38 |
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GREAT MOMENTS IN THE HISTORY OF THE DESK



Ascent of Everest 1952.



Rise in Productivity 1985.

This is what The Guardian had to say about ICL's One Per Desk when it was launched:

"Harassed executives who believe time is money should find OPD irresistible."

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STOCK MARKET REPORT

Buyers keep BT buzzing as shares reach a new peak

By Pam Spooner

British Telecommunications was buzzing in the stock market yesterday, the share price reaching a new peak of 135½p, up 5p on the day.

Buying in the shares resumed at the end of last week as market men began looking forward to this new Account, in which BT announced third quarter figures. Those are expected to be good ones, although City analysts are wary of making specific forecasts since they do not know the comparable figures for 1983/4 or any seasonal variations in revenue flow.

Trading volume in BT was high, with one buyer reported to have accumulated 5 million shares in the past three working days. Given that several investors still have less of the stock than they would like, the news is not surprising.

General Electric Company, which was already reckoned to

Scrimgeour Kemp-Gee, the stockbroker is offering for sale 31.6 per cent of William Bedford, the antiques dealer which joins the USM this month. The shares are offered at a minimum tender price of 100p, putting a market value of £4,750,000 on the company. Last year profits rose from £270,000 to £654,000, giving an historic p/e of 11.6 on an actual tax basis.

have got 1 million BT, would buy more shares. It has the cash and is an active investor. The enthusiasm which has built up for BT in this Account looks likely to provide recent buyers with a quick profit.

Volume in BT trade options was also high yesterday, accounting for more than 40 per cent of options market business, but prices of the contracts showed little movement, and the trade was fairly evenly divided between calls and puts.

Leading shares showed a firm start to the Account, despite a number of companies going ex-dividend. British Petroleum, for example, spotted a 28p loss at 533p alongside its ex-dividend mark, and Imperial Chemical Industries dropped 30p to 812p for the same reason. National Westminster Bank, Peninsula & Oriental Steam Navigation Company, Plessey and Vickers also traded ex-dividend, and most of them lost pennies as a result.

But by the close, the FT 30

share index showed a 1.1 point gain to 989.2, showing the unfettered market's determination to move forward. The FT-SE 100 share market progressed 2.2 points to 1290.8.

On the gilts pitches trade was lively as investors looked to today's money supply news to help push interest rates down. A lowering of US interest rates in recent days and some weakening of the dollar against sterling also contributed to gains of around 2½p for Government stocks.

The Treasury yesterday sent out notes to holders of the 1986 40 per cent Treasury Conversion Stock giving details for the exercise of options on April 11th this year.

The reshaping of J Rothschild Holdings, formerly known as Charterhouse, J Rothschild, continues. As the stock market waits to see what the group will do with its growing cash pile, the company announced a change in the financial year-end, from December to March 31.

The next report and accounts will cover a 15 month period to the end of this month. The directors add that they intend to recommend a second interim dividend, payable in July 1985. Yesterday, Rothschild shares rose 1p to 102p.

Meanwhile, Mr Rothschild's group is showing interest in property companies. He confirmed yesterday that he has bought a 4 per cent stake in Stock Conversion from the Courtauld pension fund at a price of 450p a share. Stock Conversion shares jumped 25p to 473p in the market.

Mr Rothschild's appearance on the scene, and subsequent market action in Stock Conversion shares, suggest a deal is close, and one City view is that Mr Rothschild will back a reverse takeover of SC by Stockley, a property company whose management is much admired in the Square Mile.

Stockley shares rose 6p to 69p.

MEPC and Slough Estates,

which were both fancied formerly to make a bid for SC, saw their shares gain ground. MEPC was up 4p at 306p and Slough rose 3p to 130p as market attention switched.

Elsewhere in the property sector, shares traded quietly as analysts wait for the next move on interest rates.

Group Lotus (Car Companies) shares saw action in the market, as the company formally declared that it has no idea why the share price has bolted ahead in recent days. Market men grew excited about the rapid growth in the car group's lucrative research and development work for the mass production car makers and about possible stake-building by such customers, and the shares shot from 88p to 118p in a week.

Yesterday's statement helped take some of the steam out of the price - it fell 4p to 114p - but City men still expect to see more interest in the stock.

British Car Auction Group, which has 25 per cent of Lotus, gained 5p to 87p alongside its associate's firmness, though BCA is also benefiting from reconsideration of the value of its steady expansion in America.

BSC Group, the car dealer which is close to receiving a bid offer, firmed up to 24p. Hawley Group and Electrobus are reckoned to have been ready to make a joint offer, but Hawley has since retreated market sources suggest, and a new approach is being prepared, still with Electrobus involved.

Elsewhere in the motor business, Dunlop shares showed the effects of the agreed bid from BTR, the Dunlop price touching 69p at one stage before settling for a 14½p gain to 65½p, just pennies above the 63p a share offer. BTR share flurried up to 704p before they too calmed down to 689p, up 30p on the day.

Woolworth was on the move in stores. The shares jumped

15p to 618p. A few weeks ago they were in the 530p range.

The rise coincided with an announcement that investment portfolios managed by the merchant bank Warburg had topped up its stake to just over 15 per cent. A few weeks ago Robert Fleming funds announced similar holdings.

Woolworth says the shares are tightly held and a few transactions tend to cause fairly sharp swings in the price. But what about rumours of a bid? Woolworth's Mr Nigel Whitaker said: "We keep hearing all sorts of rumours as well."

Other stores shares brightened alongside the bid hopes for the sector. W. H. Smith, where market talk of a consortium offer has lingered for months, jumped 18p to 212p, and Style, where bid attempts so far have failed to dislodge the Ziff family from control, put on 10p to 198p. Mr Arnold Ziff.

Market men are keeping a close eye on the price of Highland Electronics Group which has made startling progress in recent months. From 50p last autumn, the shares now trade at 126p - showing a 4p gain yesterday. Country stockbrokers have been steadily picking up the stock and a market newsletter suggested a stake being built up. Good half-time trading figures are expected late next month.

chairman of Style, has been busy buying in the shares through friends and associates in order to keep control.

Funeral directors Ingall Industries jumped 11p to 85p, topping the 80p a share takeover bid announced yesterday from Greater Midlands Co Society through its offshoot, Farisight.

Greater Midlands' bid values Ingall at £7.3 million but the funeral group has already rejected the offer as unsolicited and wholly unacceptable. The market is expecting a higher offer either from Greater Midlands or a rival.

On the USM, Industrial Finance and Investment Corporation confirmed that it has won its takeover for East of Scotland Onshore, the investment company which will effectively provide Ifico with a rights issue. Ifico has acceptances for 75.43 per cent of EoS shares and extends the offer until March 15.

TV chief urges funding stability

By Jeremy Warner

The debate on how best to fund the BBC should not be allowed to lead to "hasty decisions that will be harmful in the long run to broadcasting as a whole", Mr Alex Bernstein, chairman of Granada Group said yesterday.

Mr Bernstein was speaking at the company's annual meeting in London. He told shareholders that although present broadcasters, including Granada, could be accused of special pleading, so too could those advocates of change who would benefit from an American-style competitive system.

"We can say with certainty after nearly 30 years of experience that the present structure can and does support a television industry with a strong regional character at home and with the ability to export programmes which have a reputation second to none in the world market," Mr Bernstein said.

The Government is due to decide by the end of the month whether to change the special exchequer levy on independent television profits as well as on a new licence fee to fund the BBC. The ITV companies have argued that tampering with the levy could seriously undermine their financial position.

Mr Bernstein said that the ability to embark on productions such as Granada's highly successful programme, *Jewel in the Crown*, "must depend on stable financial climate in television."

Commenting on the group's financial performance, Mr Bernstein said that trading in the first months of the present year showed a satisfactory improvement over last year, despite disappointing television advertising revenue and the effect on some group companies of the cold winter - and the miners' strike.

Integration of Granada TV Rental with Rediffusion, which the group acquired from BET last year, was going according to plan and by the end of this year there would be one company trading under the Granada name with about 650 outlets.

"With the saving from this integration still to come, we look forward to an increase in profit and cash flow for the full year which will sustain Granada in its ambition for growth this year and in future," Mr Bernstein said.

On the stock market yesterday, Granada shares closed 1p higher at 191p.

TEMPUS

Traders absorb taplets ahead of £M3 figures

A small step for the gilts market is plainly a giant stride for the funding programme. Yesterday gilts improved a little and the Government Broker sold his stocks briskly in the spring sunshine. The £200 million taplet of Treasury 10½ per cent 1999 was exhausted, and the GB was also on and off at £204 for the short tap, Exchequer 11 per cent 1990; he may have disposed of nearly £100 million of this stock. Traders nibbled at his other taplets.

Proceeds from the rush to fund may have totalled some £300 million. This would be a very reasonable outcome for a day when quotations plainly did not boil over. Shorts improved by some ½ points - a far cry from some of the more erratic price movements of recent weeks.

Some claim the relative restraint stems from underlying awareness that the market still has to travel a long way back from the new year sterling crisis. Short yields of 11½ per cent look odd compared with base rates of 14 per cent. A market so far ahead of the fundamentals must, in theory, have limited scope to advance until rates start falling.

An alternative theory detects the heavy hand of the authorities, who have deliberately dissuaded the market from optimism until just before the Budget, in a bid to engineer a one point cut in base rates on the day. The view, if correct, suggests that all optimism about price trends ought to be tempered with restraint. The same school holds that the authorities are poised to follow up the change of policy on the exchange rate by bringing back MLR.

Shorter-term theorists will find their forecasts either vindicated or destroyed at 2.30 this afternoon, with the publication of the money supply figures for banking February. In general, the market seems to be looking for no change on the month in £M3, a view consistent with last Friday's funding moves. Taplets represent a commando raid on market sentiment, not a sustained spring offensive.

Parker Knoll

Solid, reliable, unfashionable... are attributes which sit most comfortably in the upholstered lap of Parker

Knoll, the furniture maker. For generations its familiar styles have shored up the showrooms of independent retailers like a welcoming beacon to the over 45s wary of chairs with chromium plated legs.

However, those British virtues which some would say have afflicted the company have nevertheless enabled it to maintain modest, if unspectacular, growth in one of the market's less thrilling sectors. The latest half time profits confirm the tried and trusted formula. Earnings are up from £1.42 million to £1.73 million during a time when the market for furnishings has not always been easy.

The troublesome Nathan cabinet business made losses of about £100,000 about the same as before, but reorganization should soon see the last of the red ink. Textile furnishings are showing the benefits of investment in new ranges and profits are flowing through.

Nevertheless, Mr Martin Jourdan, chairman admits the furniture market is static. Although sales are not as sensitive to changes in mortgage rates as they were, he would not like to see another rise at the moment.

His strategy, as he puts it, is to use a rifle rather than a shotgun to seek new markets. Making chairs for the disabled is one. There are 500,000 wheelchair-bound Britons, so his Parker Care range has a target to aim at.

Other possible areas are office and bedroom furniture. Kitchen furniture is out: there are too many disaster stories. What he does not intend to do is chase growth by selling to the big high street retailers. He winces at the sort of profit margins he would be left with.

Finding younger customers seems a priority - or at the very least brightening the image. In the meantime over-capacity in the industry is running at 15 per cent and a merger with neighbours Gomme makes sense. Mr Jourdan does not disagree, but says there has been no talking.

The A shares responded to the figures, which seem to indicate a full-year outcome of about £3.7 million against £3.2 million, with an 18p rise to 193p.

TV rental

Yesterday's agreement by Dixons to sell to Electronic Rentals the television and video rental interests it acquired as part of the Currys takeover, appears to be a good deal for both parties. The stock market did not go overboard in its appreciation, but Dixons shares moved up 8p to 592p and Electronic Rentals added 3p to 44p.

For Dixons the move is logical. Since the Currys acquisition the aim has been to focus management attention more sharply on selling. Dixons does not believe that renting and selling are happy bedfellows and customers will therefore be relieved of this choice in future.

Electronic Rentals, however, is much more heavily involved in the rental market through the Visionhire chain. What it is buying in this deal is another 210,000 agreements without the cumbersome overheads of the outlets. The 13 specialist Carousol rental stores which come as part of the deal will probably be disposed of.

The already uncomfortably high gearing ratio at Electronics Rentals - more than 100 per cent - will be pushed even higher in the short term, although in 1985/86 the overall increase could be quite small, to end at about 110 per cent.

The key will be to offset the increased financing charges by keeping disconnections to a minimum although the company has made ample allowance for this in its calculations.

The group's market share will rise from 15 per cent to about 17.5 per cent as a result of the deal which still leaves it in third place behind Thorne EMI and Granada. The video rental business is holding up well, but colour television rentals are still in decline. To combat this, the group is to start selling in some outlets, an interesting move considering that Dixons believes that this combination does not work.

There might be further rationalization in the rental industry, Granada's purchase of Rediffusion last year provided the biggest shake-up and yesterday Mr Alex Bernstein, Granada's chairman, reported that the integration was going well. However, as demand drops the competition will intensify and only the most imaginative and efficient will survive.

Nigeria Airways Introduces "WhisperJet" Airbus A310.

This jet is quite a revolution! With an appreciable reduction in noise level, we have achieved a more peaceful and noiseless environment which our passengers love so much. Some just relax and catch that deserving nap.

The business executive takes the time out to plan his business strategies while others just sit back and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere.

More A310s in our fleet means more flight opportunities, daily, for our numerous travellers. We fly to more destinations inside

Africa than any other airline.

Not only that, you can always expect the normal warm African hospitality from our crew, in addition to a choice of well prepared European menu or for the adventurous, some African dishes.

NIGERIA AIRWAYS
No 1 in Africa.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

| 1984-85 | High | Low | Company | Price | Ch'ge |
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|---------|------|-----|---------|-------|-------|

rate of ½. The six-month was down by ½.

Day-to-day money is expensive, throughout. The Bank of England was likely to relieve the short rates that held 14½-15% for much of the day, c. 16 or 17 per cent.

Dollar CDs (%)

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|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 month | 8.70-8.80 | 3 months | 9.00-9.10 |
| 6 months | 8.75-8.85 | 12 months | 9.00-9.10 |

EURO-CURRENCY DEPOSITS

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|-------------|---------|-----------|-------|
| Dollar | call | | |
| 7 days | 8½-8¾ | 1 month | 8½-8¾ |
| 1 month | 8½-8¾ | 3 months | 8½-8¾ |
| 6 months | 8½-8¾ | 12 months | 8½-8¾ |
| Swiss franc | call | | |
| 7 days | 10½-10¾ | | |
| 1 month | 11½-11¾ | 6 months | call |
| Swiss franc | call | | |
| 7 days | 9½-9¾ | 1 month | 9½-9¾ |
| 3 months | 9½-9¾ | 6 months | call |
| Yen | call | | |
| 7 days | 6½-6¾ | 1 month | 6½-6¾ |
| | | 6 months | call |

GOLD

Krugersmunt (per coin)

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| \$289.30-30.50 (\$275.50-277.50) |
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precise plastic injection moulding-workings die. The age Ramix will enhance S's ability to offer an integrated solution to its customers.

● **HAWKER SIDDELEY**
DAI: Figures in millions of £s. Sales 41,131.4 - about £270 million (1984). Net profit 12,616 (21.184).

● **ALLIANCE TRUST**
Jan 31. Plow 12.25p, making (13.35p). Figs in £000 revenue, 15,547 (13,011); revenue available, 8,896 (6,111).

● **JARDINE SEC**
Results to 1984, Nat. Income 18.3 million (£2.3 million) SHK 64.36 million. Total cut from 70 to 20 cents.

● **MERCANTILE CREDIT**
finance house offshoot of Bank, made gross profits of £1 million in 1984 - almost double of the previous year. The results reflected an increase of more than 40 per cent in the new business, a rise in market

T&S Stores, the confectionery and tobacco chain which came to the last October, has completely outstripped its forecast of £750,000 for the year. January 5 last by pre-tax profits of £28 against £234,000. Turnover 42 per cent to £236.4 million profits increase reflects contributions from new and increased sales from unimpaired Margins in due to the dilution of control costs.

better margins, cost control and, due to the improved business, a reduction of 34 in new provisions for doubtful debts.

● **CHRISTY HUNT:** Half-Dec 31. Figs in £000, T 1,36 (1,840). Pre-tax profits 144 after interest payable. No tax (nil). EPS 0.4p (lost). No interim payment (same).

● **UNIGROUP:** Half-Year 31. Figs in £000, Sales 31,403. Operating profit 25.6 (25.6). Losses attributable minority interests 3.1 (7.1). ordinary debt 95.2 (52.9). Loss attributable 55 (85.6). EPS 0.6p (0.56).

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank
Adam & Company
Barclays
Bank of Scotland
Citibank Savings
Consolidated Credit
Continental Trust
Egmont & Co
Lloyds Bank
Midland Bank
Nat Westminster
NBS
Parsons & Glynn's
Citibank NA

1 Mortgage Rate Rate,

* 7 day deposits on sums of £2,000, 11% £20,000 up to £112,000 10% £112,000 up to £50,000, £50,000 and over, 12%.

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COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

PC launch starts a challenge to IBM

From David Sanger, New York

After a rocky entry into the computer business last year, the American Telephone and Telegraph Company is looking to a new organization, a new leader, and later this month - a distinctive new personal computer - it struggles to compete with IBM.

A.T. & T. has long been regarded as a major contender in the computer market, because of its unparalleled telecommunications experience, its innovative Bell Laboratories and its hefty wallet. But the company's executives admit the drive in its first year to challenge IBM on its own turf has largely failed.

Some executives say the company is overcoming the internal chaos caused by the firm's split and misdirected marketing strategy.

Industry experts, however, still need to be convinced. The company's problem, they contend, lies in its desire to live in an IBM-dominated world, yet develop computers with its own distinctive style.

Last summer the company introduced its first personal computer, the IBM-compatible PC 5300. This was built to take advantage of the huge software base available for IBM machines, but offered little to distinguish itself from IBM's own PCs.

A.T. & T. officials said following IBM was the only way to enter the market quickly. But so far the computer has flopped.

Later this month A.T. & T. will announce an overhaul of the machine to make it more like IBM's faster, more powerful PC-AT along with a low-cost local area network similar to Apple Computer's Appletalk to connect the machines.

But American Telephone and Telegraph is also introducing, as long as, a machine of its own design, the PC 7300, a speedy innovative machine that allows four users to tap its powers at once - nine users for tasks that do not spread its processing powers too thinly.

The heart of the 7300 is Motorola's super-fast 68010 microprocessor, not the Intel chips that mark the IBM line and the first American Telegraph machine, built by Olivetti. The 7300 has a high-resolution graphics screen and will come with 512,000 characters of internal memory, expandable to two million. The base price will be about \$5,000.

Users will see a screen that looks much like the one on Apple's Macintosh and they can point to pictures, known as icons, to perform certain tasks.

The 7300, which will include a built-in telephone, will become the flagship machine in A.T. & T. efforts to establish its own operating system, called Unix in the office market.

Until now Unix has been popular chiefly among programmers and college students working on large computers, but not among personal computer users who rarely want to tinker with the machines innards.

As a result, virtually none of the major applications programs, written for personal computers - spreadsheets and word processors, games and communications programs - currently run in what the industry calls a Unix environment.

Thus, despite their enthusiasm for the new computer, both computer dealers and others in the industry fear that unless A.T. & T. can make a host of such programs available as soon as the 7300 is announced, the computer may never become popular.

So at last we are going to have fully computerized homes (Computer Horizons, February 5.) It has long been my dream.

I shall not have to scuddle in my handbag to look for my door keys; the front door will operate on voice recognition. No need to grope along the hall looking for the light switch. Give a shout in the direction of the windows and they will open.

My dream runs riot when I think of programming the vacuum cleaner but as yet I am unable to see how the system can help me to change the bedding and do the dusting - I am sure the bobbies will think of something. Wouldn't it be wonderful if the computer could check the store cupboard, plan the menu and order the

All change at the Exchange

There is nothing better than a multi-million pound development to give impetus to an industry. The new electronic systems being developed for the stock exchange, which at least in part, should be in place by the end of next year, could provide much needed momentum for a sluggish information technology industry.

The abolition of the distinction between jobbers, who deal as principals, and brokers, who act as dealing agents for their clients, calls for dramatic changes in work practices. Much of the trading will, in future, be done electronically.

The Stock Exchange Automated Quotation System (SEA) will be the electronic backbone of the new system.

The system at the Exchange is still in the embryonic stage since there are many technical and procedural problems still to be overcome. However, they offer an unrivalled challenge to British manufacturers and software houses. ICL, Britain's IT flagship, is developing networks for Exchange members based on its own personal computers. But the others must respond since IBM, as expected, is poised, to make a substantial impact on the hardware and software for the new dealing network.

The British Microcomputer Manufacturers Group say, which had been one of the opponents of the IBM/SEA marriage, made a rally cry to the industry last week.

The BMG made no reference to the Stock Exchange transition but emphasised that British manufacturers must develop good quality, comprehensive software, and ensure that their work-stations can be easily interconnected. Otherwise, warned the group, the danger was seen of a single dominant supplier, IBM, producing their own design and controlling the marketplace to the disadvantage of both users and independent manufacturers alike.

The Stock Exchange project must not be dominated by foreign suppliers but must be seized upon as an opportunity for the

can keep abreast of the activities and information of the Exchange computers from anywhere in the world. That could revolutionize London dealing habits and potentially could give British business involved in the project an international market for their products.

The specialist publication *Banking Technology* has just completed a comprehensive study of the potential in the Stock Exchange system. It firmly concludes: "For the first time the City will be truly open to competition from overseas, not only from foreign brokers, but from the new generation of electronic markets which can now be accessed from anywhere in the world using a simple terminal and telecommunication lines."

"Foreign institutions, especially the giant Wall Street institutions, have already been exposed to competitive forces to which they have reacted by installing computerized trading systems. They can therefore offer a better service to their customers than their British counterparts. They provide more information, trade at better prices, and still remain profitable through increased volume and operational efficiency."

The Exchange project is a flagship programme that can drive and inspire the UK computer and telecommunications industry. It must not allow the opportunity to slip by and lose an unprecedented opportunity right on its doorstep.

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone
Technology Correspondent

British IT sector to develop. According to computer expert Archie Reed at Merchant Bankers Hill Samuel: "The volume of trading on the floor (of the Stock Exchange) will diminish and will be replaced by off-floor trading with telephones and screens."

The new electronic driven exchange will substantially increase that competition - and in theory a member of the Exchange with the appropriate terminal and intercontinental telecommunications link

Car and shares sale helps clear debts at Acorn

By Maggie McLening

Directors' cars were the first to go, investments in fellow technology companies the last, in the recovery of British micro manufacturer Acorn Computers. Managing director Christopher Curry now drives a modest Metro instead of a Jaguar, and he is reluctantly seeking sympathetic buyers for Acorn's 31.7 per cent interest in Torus Systems and 11.9 per cent stake of I.Q. (Bio).

Acorn's future looks much brighter thanks to Olivetti, but 120 jobs must still go. Mr Curry said: "When you are forced to make people redundant you have to show that you're doing everything possible to raise funds in other areas."

Acorn shareholders are being called to an extraordinary general meeting on March 28 to vote on rescue plans. The main item on the agenda will be the Olivetti deal, which will give the Italian manufacturer a 49.3 per cent share of Acorn in return for a cash injection of £10.4 million, plus the option of increasing the stake to 50.1 per cent by 1990.

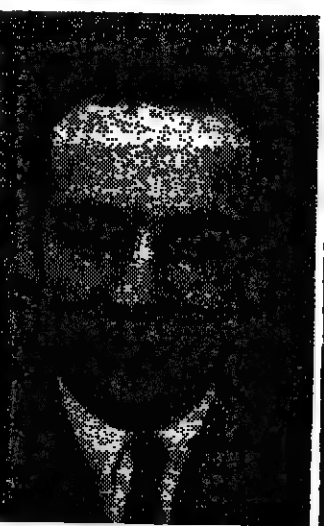
Negotiations with creditors with Acorn's debts have resulted in major suppliers, such as AB Electronics, BSR(UK), Race Electronics and Wangs Electronics, agreeing to accept payment by instalment up to February 1986.

Mr Curry believes that his experience is typical of what small British technology companies are facing, and that the worst is yet to come for those still going it alone.

"When we started there was room for lots of small players but computers have now become a major consumer business. Now, unless they form liaisons with bigger companies, the small people won't survive. The market has got IBM and the Japanese; unless Europe puts together an alternative, there won't be anything else at all," he explained.

Acorn in particular appears to have been a victim of its own success. Mr Curry says that he and Dr Hauser originally envisaged it growing "to about 60 or 70 people, which we could have managed comfortably". Instead, demand for the BBC micro and the two founders' enthusiasm for research and development forced Acorn's staff up to 400.

Nevertheless, Mr Curry insists the plans were on schedule until November last year, when orders were placed to cater for the anticipated Christmas boom. Not until mid-January did Acorn's directors realise the extent of their difficulties, when they saw the Christmas sales figures and tried to balance them against the bill from suppliers. In retrospect, Mr Curry says that if Acorn had cut the price of the Electron in November instead of in February, targets would probably have been met; a view reflected by the latest *Which* consumer report, placing the Electron as top value for money in the home market.



Optimistic: Chris Curry

The merchant banker, Lazards, who had taken Acorn to the USM, put forward emergency proposals that resulted in their sacking. According to Mr Curry, Lazards suggested selling "anything up to the whole company" to GEC, something none of the directors found acceptable. Finally, the two founders wished to retain an interest, albeit a reduced one, in Acorn, and secondly, except in financial terms.

After parting company with Lazards, Mr Curry and Dr Hauser were introduced to Closs Brothers, the small bank who brought software house Logica to the USM last year. Although Closs Brothers had never before staged a rescue (Mr Curry prefers to call it a "refinancing") operation, they came up with a compromise solution and several alternative purchasers.

"Time was critical and Olivetti was the only company who could move fast, mainly because they are fairly automatic and there was only one person - Carlo Benedetti - to make the decision. Despite Curry's well-known patriotic views, he does not agree with friend and arch-rival Sir Clive Sinclair that a national saviour would have been preferable."

"I'm not disappointed that we didn't have a British rescuer because this means that we are now into Europe. Olivetti plus Acorn will be a formidable combination, and we shall expect a substantial percentage of future revenues to come from Italy, with the BBC a top-selling product there. Unfortunately, most government contracts in Europe tend to be awarded in the national interest, so in the past we have had to look at local assembly. Now there is a good chance that Olivetti will already be in that country, to enable their government requirements to be met," said Mr Curry.

The Italian education market is an obvious initial target for Acorn, and many of Acornsoft's educational and games packages have already been translated. Part of Mr Curry's new role

Continued on page 24, col 1

UK Events

Scottish Computer Show and Conference, Anderson Centre, Glasgow, today until Thursday (01 891 5051).

Info 85, Olympia, London, March 28-29, (01 847 1001).

6889 Colour Show, Royal Horticultural Hall, London, March 30-31 (01 930 1612).

London Festival of Computing, various venues, April 9-20, (01 240 8206).

Festival Fair, Central Hall, Westminster, April 18-20, (01 240 8206).

Computer Assisted Learning Exhibition, East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham, April 11-13.

Conference Centre, Nottingham, April 11-13.

Overseas Events

Personal Computer Show, Sydney, tomorrow until Saturday.

Personal Computer Show, Amsterdam, March 21-24.

COMDEX/WINTER, Anaheim, United States, March 21-24.

COMDEX/JAPAN, Harumi Centre, Tokyo, March 26-28.

Softcon, Georgia World Congress Centre, Atlanta, March 31-April 3.

ON OTHER PAGES

- IBM expansion is blamed for shrinking profits
- Getting IT together for a museum of technology
- Douglas Adams' guide to the galaxy of games

Students cash in on cut-price Apples

By Geof Wheelwright

Apple Computer has long been keen on branding its Macintosh computer as a household name. But some American universities have taken the whole thing rather literally and have been seen brandishing soldering irons and hot poker at the machines.

The branding, reported recently in the American computer press, is to prevent student-price Macintoshes at US universities being sold to non-students. Branding is the protection measure used at the University of Michigan where each student-priced Macintosh sold bears a 1 1/2 in sq seal burned 1/4 in into its rear.

The problem is Apple's policy of offering Macintoshes to university students at almost half retail prices (often around \$1,000) in towns where local computer dealers are still selling at regular retail prices. This has led to some quite stern measures by universities trying to curb the tendency of students to "flip" Macintoshes for pocket money.

At Carnegie-Mellon College, for example, students can be expelled from university for selling a cut-price Macintosh for profit. All students buying the machines are required to sign an agreement saying they will not sell the machines for two years.

Despite these problems, the universities have gobbled up the low-cost Macs. Drexel University requires all incoming students to buy Macs and all Drexel course work assumes the ownership of such a machine. And the University of Texas estimates sales of 15,000 machines in the next year.

Apple is hoping that when Ivy League students have spent three or four years using the machines at university, they'll want to continue that use.

Japan squeezes into mainframe market

By Kevan Pearson

The Japanese computer industry last week announced its answer to IBM's large mainframe launch in February. And the announcement, from Hitachi and NEC, added fuel to the view that by 1990 only IBM and Japan will be making large mainframe computers.

Of the two announcements, the one from Hitachi is more important as the two new computers will be compatible with IBM's large mainframes and are directly comparable with IBM's Sierra machines, launched in February. Sierra comprises two large mainframes, one running at about 28 million instructions per second (mips) and one at around 30 mips.

The major differences between the Japanese computers and the IBM model is that IBM's smaller machine is really two closely coupled smaller computers. Its large system, available in 1987, will comprise four closely coupled central processors. The smaller Hitachi computer is a single unit and the larger one comprises two tightly coupled central processing units.

The Japanese machines will be sold in Europe by BASF Computers - a division of the West German chemicals giant - and National Advanced Systems, a subsidiary of the US chip maker National Semiconductor. Shipments are expected to start in 1986. Hitachi does not sell its own mainframes in Europe.

NEC launched what it claims is the most powerful general purpose mainframe computer in the world. Called the Acces 1300, it is said to run at 37 mips.

But it will not run IBM programs and so is not likely to appeal to the majority of businesses who use IBM software. IBM's share of the mainframe market is estimated to be over 76 per cent and is still

growing. The non-IBM share is declining, but there are persistent rumours that NEC may add IBM compatibility to its range some time in the future. To do that it would need to link up with a company with IBM experience. NEC's current links are with Honeywell and the French computer manufacturer, Bull.

Japan's apparent lead in the technology stakes is pushing many established computer companies towards using Japan as a giant manufacturing plant. Honeywell, one of the oldest mainframe companies in business, already sells large NEC mainframes under its own label. And ICL, the UK's own mainframe company, has a joint venture with Fujitsu, Japan's largest computer manufacturer under which that latter will make a substantial proportion of ICL's next generation of mainframes which should be launched later this year.

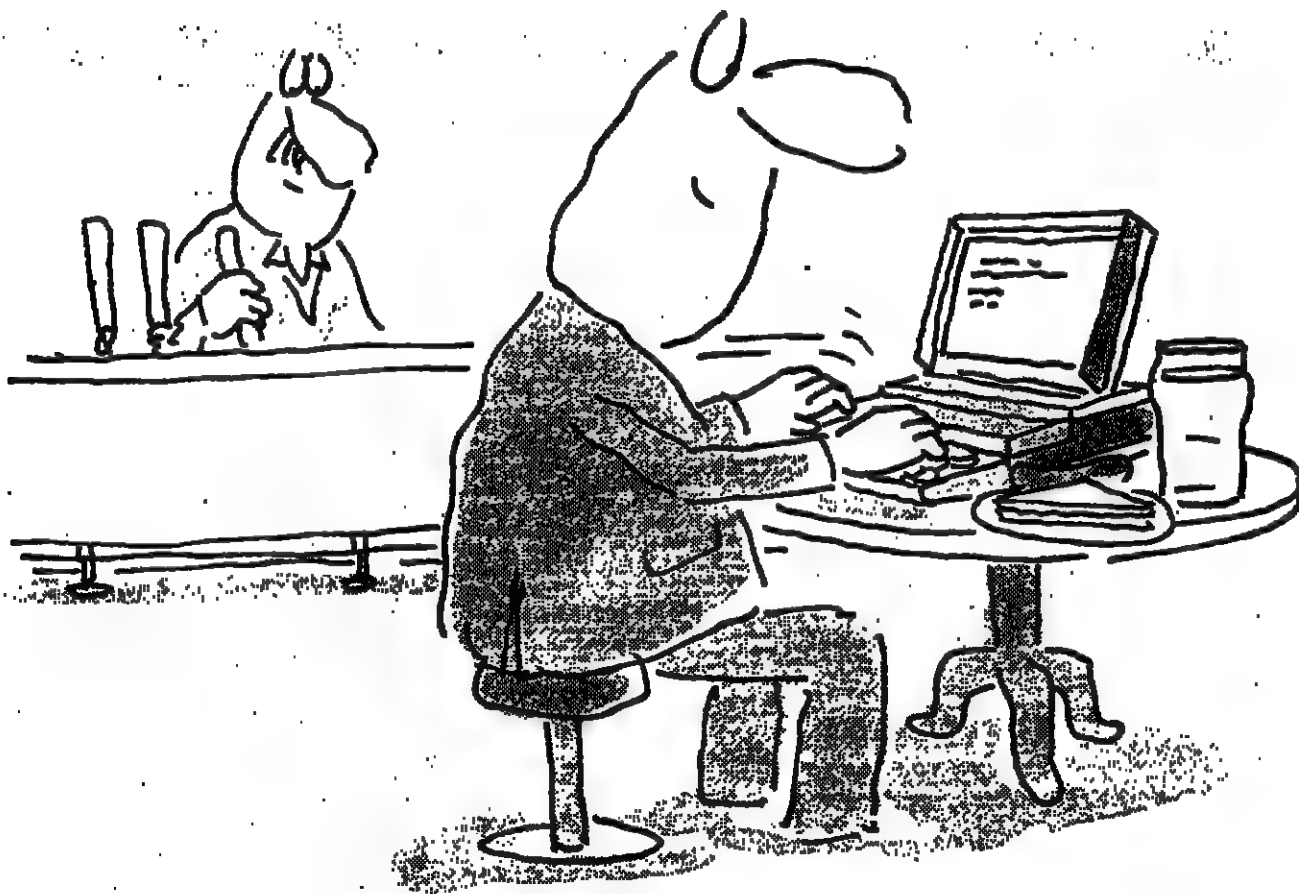
But IBM's dominance in the mainframe market caused some US computer industry consultants to say there is no real future for non-IBM mainframes. According to Mr Philip Dorm several customers from other manufacturers convert to IBM each year.

Mr Stephen McClellan, in his book *The Coming Computer Industry Shake-out*, also casts doubt on the future of the non-IBM mainframe manufacturers. "The world does not need five incompatible computer mainframe vendors," he wrote.

"Business will diminish. By 1990 two of the five will not be out of the mainframe business."

His favourites for departure are Honeywell and NCR. Indeed, NCR, formerly National Cash Register, has already diversified out of mainframes.

Indeed NCR, formerly National Cash Register, has already diversified out of mainframes. And Sperry is looking for a buyer.



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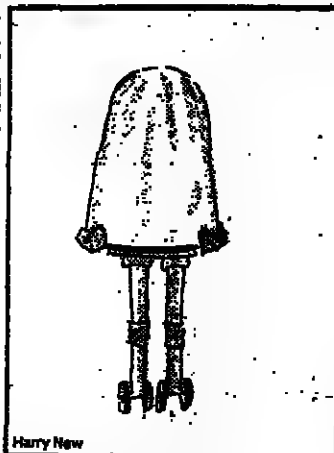
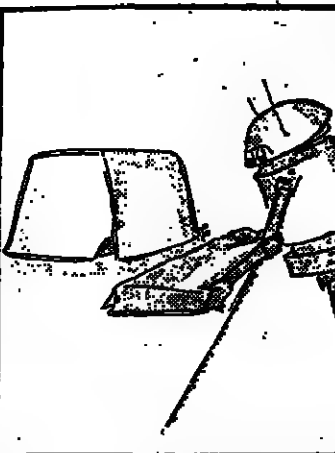
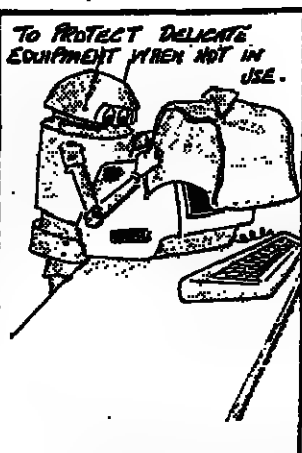
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COMPUTER HORIZONS/2



An Adams guide to a galaxy of games

By Mike Gerrard

The arrival of *Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy* as a computer adventure has been greeted with justifiable glee by those lucky enough to get a copy, but the main reason why this is without doubt the best computer game ever seen on a computer has been overlooked — it is the first time an honest-to-goodness real author, rather than a computer programmer-author, has been directly involved in the writing of an adventure.

In the future the writing of an adventure game may be as valid to an author as the writing of a radio play or short story.



Douglas Adams: Hitching his star to a computer adventure

have expanded to take in science fiction, detection, thrillers and even political satire in *Dennis the Menace* and *The Glass*.

When Melbourne House went back to the roots of adventures and produced a faithful but obviously limited computer adaptation of Tolkien's *The Hobbit*, it also set a trend for the conversion of books into adventure games.

While writers such as Conan Doyle and Rider Haggard might be excused for their lack of active participation in the computerization of their works, other modern authors whose books have been used, such as Ray Bradbury and Michael Moorcock, have given little more than their seal of approval to the projects.

Douglas Adams, however, took an active interest from the start when he was approached by Infocom, America's leading adventure software house, which also claims 40 per cent of Britain's disc adventure market, with a view to doing an adventure based on his *Hitch*

Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy. He had already discovered computers and adventure games, including Infocom's and he saw the creative potential, which is still largely untapped by authors outside the computer field.

Infocom calls its software Interactive Fiction, and the degree of sophistication to which it aspires can be achieved only by producing the material on disc alone, requiring a program of maybe 300K rather than the 30K-50K of current tape-based games.

The extra disc capacity and lack of memory-consuming graphics means that when playing an Infocom adventure you can actually interact with other characters in the story, asking them questions, trying to persuade them to do things for you, and so on.

The complexity involved in writing the program rather than simply the storyline and text, however, means that authors who work in other areas are unlikely to be attracted to the

computer adventure. At the moment it is like asking the author of a radio play not only to produce the script but also to supervise the recording, read the voices and sweep out the studio afterwards.

Many authors are reluctant to switch from typewriters to word processing, let alone getting involved in what you can actually do with a computer in terms of fiction entertainment. Adams is one of the few who have seen the creative possibilities, and while *Hitch Hiker's Guide* on the computer still only derives from the *Guide* as seen in every other medium known to man, it cannot be long before someone of Adams' standing produces an original piece of work for the computer.

Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy is published by Infocom and distributed in Britain by Softset for the Macintosh, Apple II, DEC Rainbow, IBM PC and CP/M-86 systems at £34.50, and for the Commodore 64 and Atari at £30.20.

Acorn clears the debts

From page 23

with Acorn, since the company is about to appoint a new group managing director, is to form tactical links with overseas governments and key organizations in the same way that he did in Britain with the BBC and Department of Trade and Industry.

"The BBC scheme has been watched all over Europe and there is a very good chance that we will see it replicated," Mr Curry predicted. The Italian broadcasting company RAI is at present considering a similar project.

Another of Mr Curry's principal responsibilities is the Communicator, an integrated communications terminal, which he is confident will be a key product. "It needs little additional software and has universal appeal," he said. Due to start shipping in May, the Communicator will be sold under other manufacturers' labels.

Conceding that small European companies "may survive in specialist niches", Mr Curry warned that "as soon as the niches become profitable, the big companies will move in, in the same way that IBM moved into micros". He suggested that IBM could be counteracted by "creating powerful combinations of European companies with a range of accepted standards".

"None of the British companies is in a position to provide these, despite having a very large part of world technical expertise within them. Whatever is done towards creating standards must be done very soon: it's really a case of speed up or give up," he commented.

Acorn is denying a story in trade weekly *Computer News* that it is to sign an order with telecommunications company Plessey for several thousand of its so far unveiled Communicator micro. A wholesale price of £600 is quoted for the 128K computer with built-in phone and as such it would compare well with the similar One Per Desk micro from ICL.

High skills but still low pay

Despite the computer industry's talk of a skills shortage, the salaries of those with the skills are rising no faster than for jobs in other fields, such as marketing and finance, according to a National Computing Centre survey.

The NCC report shows that in fact the rise in 1984 in computer-industry salaries was slightly lower, between 6.5 and 7 per cent, compared with 7 to 7.5 per cent in 1983.

The difference between salaries in the public and private

JOB SCENE

By Boris Sedacca

sectors is not as marked as might be expected, given the received wisdom that staff in the public sector quickly get poached by the lure of higher salaries in the private sector once they have received their first break and gained a year or two's experience.

Eleven job categories in the

private sector have higher average salaries than in the public sector. For eight of these, the differences are more than £500. Of the nine job categories which have higher salaries in the public sector, only three have average salaries which are £500 or more above the average for the same job category in the private sector.

IBM installations are generally higher paid than ICL, especially for IBM heads of management services and data processing managers, who tend to get much better paid than those working on ICL equipment.

The NCC believes that if the forecasts of respondents to its survey are correct, salary increases in 1985 will be about 6 per cent. It adds: "However, in the past, estimates have tended to be conservative so it is quite possible that salary increases in 1985 will be of the same order as those in 1984."

"If predictions are correct, the differential between the public sector and the other industry groups is going to widen even further. Increases in the public, scientific and professional services group are expected to be between 4 and 5 per cent whereas in other industries, forecasts range between 5 and 8.4 per cent."

AVERAGE COMPUTER SALARIES (DECEMBER 1984)

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| 1 Head of management services | £18,126 |
| 2 DP manager | £15,392 |
| 3 chief systems analyst | £14,096 |
| 4 chief analyst programmer | £13,285 |
| 5 chief programmer | £12,934 |
| 6 senior systems analyst | £11,913 |
| 7 database controller | £11,551 |
| 8 operations manager | £10,585 |
| 9 senior analyst programmer | £10,514 |
| 10 systems programmer | £10,730 |
| 11 systems analyst | £10,598 |
| 12 senior programmer | £10,408 |
| 13 network controller | £9,251 |
| 14 analyst programmer | £8,292 |
| 15 shift leader/senior operator | £8,090 |
| 16 programmer | £6,815 |
| 17 data preparation | £6,581 |
| 18 computer operator | £5,370 |
| 19 junior/traine programmer | £5,206 |
| 20 data preparation staff | £5,206 |

Source: NCC, Survey of Salaries and Pensions in Computing, price £20.

By Jonathan Drori

Every day, countless computer terminals display sensitive data. A recent demonstration of the BBC-TV's *Tomorrow's World* programme cast grave doubts on the privacy of this information. Equipment mounted in a discreetly parked van displayed a perfectly readable copy of a letter being typed on a word-processor in a large office block several hundred feet away.

The principle of such eavesdropping is straightforward. Electronic systems frequently cause radio interference and as any radio ham will confirm, the computer is no exception. This interference is not random. For example, near-perfect replicas of the video signal conveying information to the screen of a terminal can be radiated at very high frequencies. These harmonics can be decoded using a familiar piece of equipment specially designed to deal

with weak video signals such as an ordinary television set.

Minor modifications and some cheap external components are required for a stable picture. This is because of the different standards used for computer terminals and broadcast television. The only other requisite is a good antenna.

That the total cost of this equipment can be less than £100 has been causing alarm among many computer users. Some users have recently spent a lot of money protecting their commercial secrets by encrypting data before it is sent down telephone lines, but this method reads the information directly from the screen before it is coded. Of course, the data need not be text — the designs of next year's computer-modelled motor cars are just as

vulnerable. Hospitals often store patient's records on computers and the terminals by which these are accessed may well be insecure.

The 1984 Data Protection Act gives individuals the right to compensation for unauthorized disclosure of personal data. The Act also specifies that the directors of a company not taking "appropriate security measures" to protect, say its personnel files, are themselves liable to prosecution. Exactly what "appropriate" entails is a cause of great confusion.

Cheap screening methods sufficient to foil the amateur eavesdropper would be unlikely to deter the determined professional with sophisticated equipment and perhaps the resources of a government at his disposal. In order that no one at all should be able to

reconstitute information from a remote VDU, its radio frequency shielding must be exceptionally efficient. The Nato standard for such shielding is called Tempest.

Details of the standard, which originates in the US, are highly classified. No hint must be given to an enemy of possible weaknesses in ones electro-magnetic defence. Various techniques are used to build secure equipment and most of these rely on the screening properties of what is called a Faraday Cage. The principle in this context is that if a perfectly conducting layer completely encloses a source of electric energy, none of that energy will be detectable outside.

In general terms, a metal casing for the equipment and a fine metal mesh over the screen would be required.

Signals on all external cables would have to be filtered. Sometimes a Faraday Cage is built around a whole installation, allowing the equipment inside the room to be less sophisticated. The floor, walls and ceiling are clad in metal with double metal doors. Ventilation can be provided via conducting honeycomb gratings.

All this is expensive but those whose data is of importance to national security must spend the money. Military installations and government departments like GCHQ have had Tempest-approved equipment for some time. However, most computer users, who were confronted with the problem only last month, must now decide how much investment in screening is necessary.

Some equipment radiates much more than others. Manufacturers, by

making minor modifications to the design of their terminals, could drastically reduce the amount of spurious radiation. A coating of conductive spray on the inside of plastic-cased VDUs may be enough to stymie the amateur.

For now, though, even £100 worth of easily obtainable bits and pieces will gain easy access to information on terminals all over the country. Directors and project leaders at several of these electronics giants have expressed surprise that eavesdropping can be so easy. Their estimates of the cost of the equipment were thousands of times greater than actually required. The Ministry of Defence has now asked the BBC for copies of the programme "for training purposes".

Amid the concern, companies in the shielding business are hawking their wares to banks and hospitals, to small-businesses and multinationals in gleeful anticipation of a busy year.

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*Daily Mail 2/10/84

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SANYO

The games that aim to aid the starving

Soft-Aid, a compilation of computer games with the proceeds going to Sanku famine relief, is now on sale. Sixteen software houses have supplied games for the product which is being published in two versions - one for the Spectrum and the other for the Commodore 64. Every tape contains 10 games and costs £4.95.

Those involved in production, duplication and distribution have all agreed to waive profit margins. The project's organizer, Rod Cousins, of Quicksilver, says that at least £3 from every sale will go to Bob Geldof's appeal through the Band Aid Trust. Initial sales of £40,000 are expected.

The first regular on-line chat show will be launched by Micronet next week. Celebrity Chatline, which starts its weekly slot on Wednesday evening will allow micro users to interview and chat with a range of computer personalities. Micronet editor David Baskin will go to the celebrities' homes, where he will input the answers to subscribers' questions using a pre-formatted response frame.

The new service will be similar to the Late Night Chatline, one of Prestel's most popular pages, which is accessed (almost two million in January).

A new way has been found to stop hackers - computer security based on a person's unique voice pattern, not just a set of codes. The Voice Operated Computerized Identification System (VOCIS) will free a terminal, system or particular file only when the user's voice pattern has been accepted. The Belgian firm GET, which devised VOCIS, also

COMPUTER BRIEFING



"I said I was getting a personal computer. Who said anything about a micro?"

developed the voice recognition technology for protecting many of the sensitive nuclear, defence and aerospace plants and buildings in the Benelux countries.

"The voice is the most secure means of identification of all", said a GET spokesman. "It cannot be faked, stolen or imitated". Once the computer accepts a voice print a user can log on to his terminal in the usual manner. A special version of this terminal is the T200 access control system which can be called up over the telephone by a remote user.

Apple Computer shut three manufacturing plants yesterday for a week to clear what it describes as an "inventory glut" on retailers' shelves. The factories affected are Dallas, Fremont and Cork. Staff were asked to take the week as part of their paid annual leave. John Sculley, the company president, had previously announced that retailers were overstocked with the Macintosh and Apple II.

Apple is also suffering from several recent resignations in the United States by senior and middle managers and top engineers. One cause is disillusionment in the Apple II division as the company is concentrating on getting the Macintosh sold into the office market.

A computerized permanent traffic monitoring system is being introduced in Sweden by the National Road Administration. Traffic parameters will appear on a display panel at the administration's head office. The data will include axle loads, vehicle weight, vehicle type, speed and direction. The information will even show which lane of a road is being used.

The new system, designed to improve traffic planning and road maintenance, will include 41 permanent stations around Sweden, 16 with weighing equipment consisting of plates built in the road. Every plate is individually coupled to the

registration unit. The plates and other sensors send information to a storage unit in the registration equipment which is then forwarded every 24 hours to the head office computer.

Li Junqiang, director of the non-governmental China Information Research Institute has solved the logistical problem of how China will ever enter the computer age with a written language of 6,000 commonly used characters. He claims to have developed a new system that codes the eight strokes comprising all Chinese characters into a computer-ready format which also allows an operator to input other languages. The system has received a British patent.

Nearly a hundred Chinese scholars, linguists and engineers have tested the new system and say it is workable, calling it an "exciting new development in computerizing the Chinese language". It requires only an eight-key mini-keyboard and encodes strokes and programmes the computer to reconstruct character information entered by the operator.

According to Chinese press reports he received £161,290 for patent rights. The first international business competition to use microcomputers Maristat '85, has started with more than a hundred teams from some of Europe's top companies. They will decide the strategy for the first year of operation of a dummy company and send their answers to France on floppy disc. The simulation centres on an industry which manufactures and markets a consumer durable product.

Britain gets IT together for a museum

By Paul Walton

Information technology, a business usually concerned with the future, is taking a look over its shoulder at a more glorious past.

A group of academics, manufacturers and customers is drawing up plans for a museum of early British-built computers. Although Britain now trails in the IT field, it was British research which founded the industry 40 years ago.

Now ICL is funding and organizing the Computer Museum and Study Project. The group which developed York's Yorvic Viking Centre, Heritage Projects, will draw up plans for the study project.

The first computers were built by British code-breakers to intercept German communications in the Second World War ENIGMA project. After the war, researchers at Manchester University put together the first electronic computer, or the ENIAC, from the old electric vacuum tubes used in televisions and radios.

These basic designs evolved and became the large main-frame computers, which used slightly more compact electronic circuit boards. Such computers began the rise of giant American corporations like Sperry Univac and, biggest of all, IBM.

By the 1950s computers could be programmed to do useful work, or data processing. Lyons, the better known as the tea-shoppers' people, were celebrated in the public eye for being the first to use a mainframe computer called LEO (or Lyons Electronic Office) to handle its accounts.

The world's first computer museum was recently opened in Boston, Massachusetts, by United States computer maker, Digital Equipment.

Growing IBM gets the blame for shrinking profits

From Jan Katz
San Francisco

IBM's rapid expansion is causing a major problem for the computer industry by driving down profit levels and forcing companies out of business, says the head of the industry's leading group of analysts.

Gidcon Gartner, president of the Gartner Group, told a technology conference for financial analysts in San Francisco:

"The good news is that computer industry growth is now up at around 18 per cent per year after spending the last two decades at a not unrespectable 15 per cent. The bad news is that profit margins are down and the risk factor is up."

He continued: "Some may say that we are at a tricky point in the product cycle or the economic cycle. Or that there has been a loss of mismanagement as the industry becomes

more complex. But the fact is that IBM has a lot to do with the industry's present problems."

Gartner argued that IBM has embarked on an aggressive strategy to boost its revenues by nearly 25 per cent a year more than they would have been if it had continued at its more normal 13 per cent annual growth rate. IBM is now achieving a 16 per cent annual growth rate and it has policies

in place which could boost its growth rate to around 18 per cent.

The difference in revenue between IBM at the old growth rate and IBM with its present expansion plans would, by 1993, equal \$41 billion - more than IBM's total revenue in 1983.

Gartner's analysis is being borne out by IBM's recently appointed chief executive, John Akers. He predicted that within a decade, IBM would almost quadruple in size by passing \$180 billion in yearly revenues. IBM's revenues for 1984 were \$46 billion, up from \$40 billion in 1983.

As IBM pushes growth to the

absolute limits, profit margins in the computer industry will fall. Companies not competing directly with IBM by operating in profitable niche markets will find themselves up against the industry giant as it seeks new markets to feed its demanding momentum of growth. "You will now have to say whether the size of the niche market is small enough to be attractive rather than is it large enough", Gartner said.

He warned that there will be few long-term investments worth making. "There is still a lot of money to be made in the information industry, but don't over-complicate issues - intermediate, short-term investing makes more sense."

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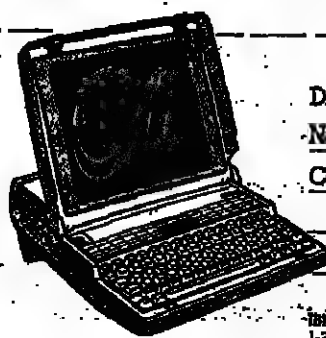
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FOOTBALL: FA CUP DRAW GIVES UNFANCIED CLUBS TIME TO DREAM

Red giants come together again in search of key to Wembley

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

This year there is to be room at Wembley for only one red giant. In 1983 the arena was transformed into a scarlet sea as Liverpool, in winning the Milk Cup for the third successive season, eventually overcame Manchester United 2-1 during a memorable semi-final afternoon that was extended by an extra half hour.

On April 13 their followers will drape their colours across Goodison Park to see the two colossi attempting to squeeze through the doorway to the national stadium. In that sense, yesterday's FA Cup semi-final draw was cruel. Such a contest deserves the best stage and would bring the season to a fitting close.

But Luton Town, Ipswich Town and particularly Millwall have been given a few hours in which to dream of growing into Titans themselves for a day. They and Everton, at Kenilworth Road and at Portman Road tomorrow night, will play in the comparative shadows of White Hart Lane or Villa Park.

Liverpool are now favoured to win the one trophy that eluded Bob Paisley and complete their collection of silverware over the last decade. As usual, the timing of their run is

Dundee United may face Cup holders

Aberdeen, the Scottish Cup holders, will meet Dundee United in the semi-finals if they beat Hearts of Midlothian in the night's replay at Pittodrie. Motherwell will meet either Dundee or Celtic, who replay at Parkhead tomorrow night. The venues for the semi-finals will not be decided until after the replays.

impeccable. So far this year they have lost only to Juventus in Turin, and their current form was confirmed during Sunday's live television coverage of their 4-0 win over Barnsley.

By coincidence, ITV's cameras will present a dress rehearsal on the last day of this month, when United visit Anfield. Ron Atkinson should by then have welcomed back to his cast Robson, Moses and Moran, who all feared in the 1-1 draw against Liverpool at home on September 22. Draw, significantly, did not. He maintained his record of scoring in every round with another three goals against Barnsley and raised his overall striking rate in the competition to about one in each of his 18 games. Even more remarkably, Liverpool have yet to lose a

game in which he has claimed a goal. The match at Old Trafford was so tightly disciplined that it might have been nailed inside a wooden crate. Both goals, a Strachan penalty and a controversial Walsh effort, were untidy and the afternoon was marred by another shuddering collision between Moran, who limped off, and Dalgligh, whose cheek was smashed in a similar incident the previous year.

The formidable foes are sure to put caution above adventure at Goodison Park, and claps of thunder rather than delicate exchanges will doubtless be heard amid the inevitable tension. United's resolve will be stirred if nothing else, by the painful memory of their last appearance here, in October. Everton humiliated them 5-0.

Apart from their defeat at Wembley two seasons ago, United can see a few bright grains of optimism in their recent record against Liverpool on neutral ground. At a few months later in 1983, they came out with a 2-0 victory in the Charity Shield, a trophy they shared after a goalless draw in 1977.

United beat Liverpool in the final that year and also in the semi-final of 1979, when a Jimmy Greenhoff goal separated the two sides. Bailey and Albiston, if not Neal, Hansen

and Dalgligh, who has yet to appear in the season's showpiece, will remember their personal contributions that day at Goodison Park.

Liverpool were preparing to call in on their neighbours tomorrow night, but Everton are otherwise engaged in their sixth-round replay at Ipswich. Their prospects of reaching Wembley for the fourth time in little over a year, and their run of 11 successive Cup ties without defeat, are in danger there.

Everton could yet be involved in a dress rehearsal. On April 9 they are scheduled to visit Luton, who, rather than listening to their fate, preferred to watch a wide-ranging replay of their fifth-round victory over Watford on Saturday. That earned them home advantage against Millwall.

Millwall, the first third division representatives, to appear twice in the semi-final draw, fell heavily the last time they reached such heights. In the sixth round of 1978, against a backcloth of violence, they lost 6-1 at home. Their conquerors who went on to be crowned at Wembley happened to be Ipswich.

SEMI-FINAL DRAW: Luton Town or Millwall v Ipswich Town or Everton at Villa Park (FA Cup replay, at White Hart Lane, Ipswich, will meet Watford v Liverpool (at Goodison Park). Matches to be played on Saturday, April 13.



Dissension in Asuncion: Noah (right) in a dispute during his victory over Gonzalez which squared the tie

TENNIS

France out amid violence

Asuncion (Agencies) - Victor Pecci, defeated Henri Leconte 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5 here early yesterday in a match marred by violence to eliminate France from the Davis Cup and take Paraguay into the quarter-finals of the world group.

Trouble broke out in the second set when Leconte was distracted while serving by a noise from the crowd. Yannick Noah and other members of the French team, including the captain, Jean Paul Loth, rushed over to a spectator.

Several members of the noisy, partisan crowd surged out of the stands towards the Frenchmen, and police with sticks moved in to restore order. A Paraguayan spectator, named as Roberto Velazquez, a qualified line judge, was treated as a first-aid centre.

An announcement that the game was to be suspended until Monday brought shouts and whistles from the crowd, and it was eventually agreed that play would continue.

A spokesman for the French Tennis Federation admitted that Noah, who had beaten Francisco Gonzalez to level the tie at 2-2, admitted that Noah and French officials had jostled Velazquez after he shouted something uncompromising about the aggressive attitude of the crowd, the weakness of officials and the timidity which kept players on court late into the night.

Clarke added that Wigan's confidence against Rovers was based on the fact that they have already recorded a double against them in championship fixtures. The other semi-final will be played on April 6, at a venue to be decided, when Widnes and Hull have sorted out their quarter-final, which is to be replayed at Widnes tomorrow. Castlford have reached their third semi-final in four seasons, having lost the previous two, and they cannot feel too sanguine at meeting either of the cup giants.

GOLF

Zoeller back to best

From John Ballantine, Orlando, Florida

On January 2, Zoeller walked out of his front door on his 80-acre estate in Indiana carrying his wife's five iron and a few of her practice balls. "I swung," he remembers, "and I swung again, and it felt good."

So good, in fact, that on Sunday, only five weeks since he began to practice seriously again, he proved too fit and determined for Tom Watson and others. I asked him what his goal now is for 1985. "To win the British Open at Royal St George's," he said. "I've been coming over for a good few years now. It's about time I won it."

LEADING FINAL SCORES: US Open (200-10) 1. M. J. Slater (200-10), 2. M. J. Slater (200-10), 3. M. J. Slater (200-10), 4. M. J. Slater (200-10), 5. M. J. Slater (200-10), 6. M. J. Slater (200-10), 7. M. J. Slater (200-10), 8. M. J. Slater (200-10), 9. M. J. Slater (200-10), 10. M. J. Slater (200-10).

"The diagnosis was that a couple of discs had ruptured. One had to be removed, the other repaired," he recalls. He was given a chance of playing serious golf again.

Wigan seem quite unperturbed at the prospect of facing the favourites, Hull Kingston Rovers, in the semi-final of the Challenge Cup, sponsored by Silk Cut, on Saturday March 23.

For one thing the match will be played at Elland Road, Leeds, and yesterday the Wigan joint coach, Colin Clarke, said: "Elland Road is a good ground for us. We beat Leeds in the John Player Trophy final there and last season we were on York at Elland Road in the semi-final."

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SKIING

Girardelli in sight of overall title

Aspen, Colorado (Reuters) - Marc Girardelli, of Luxembourg, who took the World Cup giant slalom championship on Sunday, moved unassailable close to the overall title. His victory added five more points to his World Cup overall points total of 252. Pirmin Zurbriggen of Switzerland, last year's overall winner, finished fifth and stands at 207. "I think now I have no chance," Zurbriggen said. The Swiss came here badly in need of points in both this race and the downhill, but failed to score in either.

France Klammer, of Austria, may be on the brink of retirement. Klammer, aged 31, plans to miss the season's final World Cup event in Panorama, Alberta, this weekend. He will give a press conference on Friday.

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Sunshine Village, Alberta (Reuters) - Marcia Kiehl, of West Germany, took over from Michela Figini of Switzerland at the top of the giant slalom standings after beating the Swiss girl who was on top.

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Hitch could let in England

By Clive White

England have been given fresh hope of staging the 1988 European Championships because the West German nomination has run into trouble. They have found themselves in a sticky situation, sandwiched with UEFA on one side and the West German government on the other, over the use of West Berlin as a venue.

When UEFA awarded West Germany the championship, England as reserve - last month, they insisted that West Berlin should not be used as a venue for fear of upsetting Eastern bloc sensibilities over the city's status as a free city within the German Democratic Republic. Now the German government have stated that they will withdraw support if West Berlin is not named.

Ted Croker, the FA Secretary, said: "That would seem to rule them out. UEFA have indicated that a host country must have government support."

"I'm certain that UEFA cannot now rubber stamp the German nomination following the emergence of this issue. We have submitted a letter to them stressing particular points, with emphasis on the support we have been given by our government. We will be submitting a further letter to them stressing particular points, with emphasis on the support we have been given by our government."

England's claims were always the stronger of the two countries, not least because West Germany staged a major championship - the World Cup - as recently as 1974, whereas England staged their only championship, also the World Cup, in 1966. It was the disgraceful record of England's supporters abroad, at club and international level, that handicapped their original application.

UEFA will announce their decision in Lisbon on Friday and Herman Nubergger, the president of the German federation, will fly there tomorrow to put their case. He does not believe that government support is necessary, says the West German newspaper, *Welt am Sonntag*, said that the government had called upon eight Western European countries to support the inclusion of West Berlin.

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Evaristo may take road to Rio

As Brazil's new but third-choice manager Evaristo searched desperately for a player to play his way, ironically, on the 30-year-old midfielder, Eloi, of Rio's Botafogo club.

Eloi recently came back to Brazil with his last club, Lazio, after a year in Italy with Lazio. Eloi, who has been used by Botafogo, has been a man inspired, transforming their team. He has been scoring goals as well as making them, two in a fine unexpected 3-1 win on the ground of Vasco da Gama, who are managed by Zico's brother and last year's national team manager, Edu.

Zico has just been back to Rio, trying to persuade his former club, Flamengo, to buy him from Udinese. Kodak are said to be among four potential sponsors to foot the bill for the 32-year-old striker, although a deal with one potential sponsor, Patrobas, has fallen through. Evaristo would doubtless be happy to see him return, not least because of the poor form in Italy of Soares and the physical condition of Falcao and Corcoba.

Italy's match away to Greece tomorrow meant that there was no

Bryan Robson will be absent as Manchester United meet Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane tonight. Robson, tired after his first game in two months in the Central League at Aston Villa on Saturday, continues his rehabilitation against Blackburn on Saturday. Robson, tired after his first game in two months in the Central League at Aston Villa on Saturday, continues his rehabilitation against Blackburn on Saturday.

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March 12 1985

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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Production Director

Foreign Language Publications for
Industry & Publishing

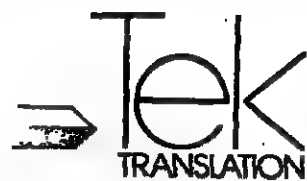
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Working in the Judiciary Department, the duties will be the hearing and determining of civil and criminal cases, together with the appointment of guardians, executors and fiduciaries.

Applicants should have held Office as a Judge of a court having unlimited jurisdiction in civil or criminal matters; or should have been qualified for at least seven years to practice in such a court. Familiarity with and experience of the common law system in Third World countries would also be advantageous. It is anticipated that the appointment will commence August 1985.

Local salary, in the range £11,885 to £12,484 p.a. plus a tax free supplement, payable by ODA, in the range £3,582 to £3,732 p.a. Ref. A8308/SL/TT/3M.

Applicants for both posts should be British Citizens aged 30-35. Both contracts are with the Government of Seychelles for periods of two years. Other benefits include free passages, children's education allowances, subsidised accommodation and free medical attention.

For full details and application forms, please apply within 21 days, quoting the appropriate reference and giving details of age, qualifications and experience to: Appointments Officer, Overseas Development Administration, Room 38, Abercrombie House, Eagleham Road, EAST KILBRIDE, Glasgow G75 8EA.



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We are looking for two solicitors to join our Intellectual Property and Anti-Trust Litigation Department. The Department deals with patent, trade mark, copyright and EEC competition matters. Within that sphere, the work is varied and the successful applicant(s) will be expected to undertake considerable responsibility. He or she must also be prepared to travel overseas. Salary and benefits are commensurate with a large City firm.

Newly qualified solicitors as well as those with 1-3 years experience will be considered. Experience in this particular field would be preferable but not essential, provided that the applicant has good experience in Commercial Chancery litigation.

Please contact Alistair Allan, at:-

Clifford-Turner,
Blackfriars House,
19 New Bridge Street,
London EC4V 6BY.

LEGAL APPOINTMENT

There will be a vacancy in April 1985 for a law graduate or a newly admitted solicitor/barrister in the legal department of the National House-Building Council. The offices are part of Amersham Station. The NHBC is an insurance company concerned with standards in the house building industry. The legal department is a busy department of three lawyers. The vacancy is for a person to deal primarily with disciplinary matters where builders have failed to comply with NHBC rules and to act as secretary to the disciplinary committees and also carry out general advisory work on the NHBC scheme. The applicant must be intelligent and hard working with an ability - which will be tested - to write good clear English. The salary will be approximately £9,000 p.a. depending on age and experience. There are additional fringe benefits including pension scheme. Non smoker essential.

Please write or phone for an application form to be returned by 19 March.

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For further information (in confidence) please contact Mr. David Whately (himself a qualified solicitor).

His private telephone number is 01-623 9227 and the reference number is 622.

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Applications giving full details of qualifications and experience with the names of two referees should reach me not later than Friday 22nd March 1985.

Interviews will be held at Ipswich on Friday 29th March 1985.

For any further information please telephone Mrs S. M. Thew, the Deputy Clerk to the Justices. (Telephone: Ipswich (0473) 217261)

The Magistrates' Court
Elm Street, IPSWICH,
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Margaret Peters, Buckston & Co,
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London W1R 5FA

All replies will be acknowledged

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An opportunity exists in our Property Department for a talented lawyer to enlarge his or her experience in a variety of conveyancing work.

You will have specialised in commercial conveyancing since qualifying and be capable of handling a wide range of property work. Enthusiasm and ability will command an excellent financial reward.

If you are looking to improve your career prospects in this area please write in confidence to John Dunstan, Allen & Overy, 9 Cheapside, London EC2V 6AD.

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Slaughter and May are looking for ambitious young solicitors to work in their Property Department. The firm handles a wide range of commercial property work, including institutional investment and development projects, commercial lettings and mortgages. Salary and benefits will be attractive and will take full account of age and experience. Applicants, who should be able to mix well into a friendly although hard working environment, should apply with full C.V. to:

Peter Morley-Jacob,
Slaughter and May,
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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

BBC 1

- 6.00 Cerefax AM.
- 6.50 Breakfast Time with Soles and Nick Ross. Weather at 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.25, 8.55 and 9.15; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.57, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27; news with Debbie Rick at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00. Plus, fashion news gardening advice; and a recipe.
- 9.20 Cerefax. 10.30 Play School (r).
- 10.50 Cerefax.
- 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Frances Corderale. The weather report comes from Michael Fish. 12.57 Regional news (not London).
- 1.00 Pebble Mill at One includes the first of a film series in which top flower arranger Howard Frankland visits the gardens that have inspired his finest work. Today he returns to the garden of his youth. 1.45 Hockey Goody a See-Saw programme for the very young.
- 2.00 The Cheltenham Festival. Coverage of four races (two on BBC 2) from the first day of the top class meeting, introduced by Julian Wilson. The Waterloo Crystal Stakes (2.15); and the Arkle Challenge Trophy Steeplechase (2.50). The 3.30 and 4.05 races are covered on BBC 2.
- 3.05 Cerefax. 3.48 Regional news (not London).
- 3.50 Play School, presented by Carol Leader, with guest Ben Thomas. 4.10 Comedy cartoon (r). 4.15 Jackanory. Hayley Mills reads part two of Tatty Apple, by Jenny Nimmo. 4.30 Laurel and Hardy. Cartoon version. 4.35 Think Again. Johnny Ball presents the facts about electricity in a light-hearted manner (r). 5.05 Newsround with Paul McDowell.
- 5.10 Who, Sir? Me, Sir? Part one of a new six-episode series about a class of non-achievers and their master's efforts to make them work.
- 5.35 Dr Kildare. Nurse Zoe Lawton receives some fatherly advice from Dr Gillespie. Will she take any notice? (r).
- 5.40 News with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Witchell. Weather.
- 5.50 London Plus.
- 6.00 EastEnders. Kevin, the 16-year-old son of builder Tony Carpenter, wants to live with his father when his parents divorce, but his father is temporarily "of no fixed abode" (Cerefax).
- 6.30 Blankety Blank. Les Dawson's guests are Duncan Norville, Barbara Windsor, Chris Tarrant, Sarah Greene, Frank Carson and Leslie Ash.
- 6.50 Maelstrom. The sixth and final episode of the mystery and Catherine at last finds out the truth about her inheritance (Cerefax).
- 6.50 Points of View. Barry Took with another selection of letters to the BBC.
- 8.00 News with Michael Buerk.
- 9.25 Miami Vice. The second and final part of the story and Crockett and Tubbs are even more determined to bring Calderone to justice after the murder of Lt Rodriguez. Their investigations lead to the Bahamas where they find they have no jurisdiction and must help from the local police.
- 10.15 Film 86, presented by Barry Norman. There are reviews of 2010, Wetherby and A Soldier's Story, a film that has earned three Academy Award nominations.
- 10.45 Loose Ends. Lighthearted general knowledge panel game, presented by Tim Brooke-Taylor.
- 11.15 The Cheltenham Festival. Highlights of the opening day of the premier National Hunt meeting.
- 11.35 Weather.
- 12.25 Night Thoughts.

TV-am

- 6.15 Good Morning Britain, presented by Ann Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Jayne Irving at 6.16, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00 and 9.30; sport at 6.50 and 7.37; exercises at 6.50 and 8.15; Frank Ilford remembers at 7.17; Popeye cartoon at 7.23; pop video at 7.45; Jeni Barnett's postbag at 8.15; Eve Pollard's gossip column at 8.40; cooking at 8.53. The guest is Simon Callow.

ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: How to talk about the future. For the hearing impaired. 9.47 Maths: the number eight. 9.59 Getting on with other children. 10.17 Pies. 10.37 German conversation. 11.02 Learning to read with Basil Brush. 11.15 Using hands to pass messages. 11.32 Finding and collecting things. 11.48 The manufacture of chocolate. 12.00 Cockleshell Bay. Seaside adventures of the Cockle twins (r). 12.10 Rainbow. Learning with puppets (r). 12.30 The Bullfinch.
- 1.00 News at One and weather. 1.20 Thames news with Robin Houston. 1.30 Strangers. The three CID officers take violence when they investigate the British end of a German Deutschmarks gang of forgers (r).
- 2.30 Daytime presented by Sarah Kennedy. 3.00 Gambit. Quiz game for married couples, presented by Tom O'Connor. 3.25 Thames news headlines. 3.30 The Young Doctors. 4.00 Cockleshell Bay. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 The Moonrakers. 4.20 Bannicle the Vampire Rabbit Cartoon (r). 4.45 CBTV.
- 5.15 Emeraldale Farm. Who will be the new president of the National Rural Society? Will Amos or Seth be awarded by an unconsidered third party?
- 5.45 News and weather. 6.00 Thames news.
- 6.30 Help! Viv Taylor Gae with news of the Crossroads Care. Attendance Scheme which provides badly needed help for those caring for disabled people in their own homes.
- 6.30 Crossroads. Lack of funds puts a strain on a friendship.
- 6.55 Reporting London. Eight months after having an epidural injection during the birth of her baby, a woman lies in coma in an east London hospital. Jackie Spradley asks why aristocratic information about this widely used form of anaesthetic has not been collated to prevent the risks of serious tragedies and reduce the cases of painful side effects. Plus, an examination of London's Labour MPs who are facing re-election problems in multicultural constituencies.
- 7.30 Bummer's Holiday. Quiz game, this week between a team of vicars from Manchester, a team of doctors from Hertfordshire; and a team of women prison officers from Bristol (Cerefax).
- 8.00 Up the Elephant and Round the Castle. Comedy series starring Jim Convery (r).
- 8.30 Chance in a Million. Alison Little gives her parents cause for alarm after she returns home from meeting Tom Chance dressed only in underwear and a borrowed fur coat (first shown on C4).
- 9.00 Television. Part five examines the power of pictures in the news (Cerefax) (see Choice).
- 10.00 News at Ten and weather, followed by Thames news headlines.
- 10.30 Widows. The three women carry on with their plans for the robbery despite the unwelcome intrusion of the Fisher brothers (r).
- 12.25 Night Thoughts.



Richard Nixon: Television (ITV, 9.00 pm)

BBC 2

- 5.55 Open University: Social Sciences: Turning it Round. Ends at 7.20. 9.00 Cerefax.
- 9.28 Daytime On Two: Modern history: the problems of post-war Europe. 9.48 Maths: graphs. 10.10 Part Eight of Fair Ground. 10.35 The economic development of Brazil's Amazon region. 11.00 How animals use camouflage to hide from danger. 11.17 The development of towns in the Middle Ages. 11.40 A student's eye view of undergraduate life. French language version of the Year of the French programme about a family-owned hotel in La Rochelle. 12.30 The eighth film in the series on contemporary Japan. 1.00 Maths for adults studying for O-level. 1.15 Science: alternative sources of energy. 1.38 Plant extinctions. 2.00 For the very young. 2.15 Earthquakes and volcanoes. 2.40 Patterns in the forest and on the seashore.
- 3.05 The Cheltenham Festival, (continued from BBC 1) The Waterloo Crystal Champion Hurdle Challenge Trophy (3.30); and the Waterloo Crystal Stayers' Hurdle (4.05).
- 4.20 Cerefax.
- 5.25 News summary with subtitles.
- 5.30 Pageant. A documentary, first shown on BBC North East, about the preparations of the people of Warloworth in Northumberland for a pageant, re-creating the stormy history of the Border country, in the grounds of Warloworth Castle.
- 6.00 The High Chaparral. Apache renegades say yes to the ranch.
- 6.50 Off the Record. Steve Blackett talks to Tessa Sanderson about her record collection.
- 7.00 Whistle Test. The television debut of the controversial group, the Jesus and Mary Chain. Others playing live are the Faith Brothers.
- 8.00 Top Gear. William Woollard tests the Sinclair C5 and other electric vehicles from this country and Denmark. Chris Goffey discusses Peugeot's 205 Electrique; and Sue Baker road tests the Toyota MR2.
- 8.30 Entertainment USA 2. Jonathan King in Hawaii where he talks to Magnum star, Tom Selleck, George Benson and The Animals. There is also a clip from the new film thriller, 1040-9141, the night, and the latest US pop videos.
- 9.00 Inside Out. The Exelli agency of former criminals is asked to test security arrangements at a factory. (Cerefax).
- 9.30 Pot Black 83. David Icke introduces the second quarter-final - between Cliff Thorburn and Willie Thorne.
- 10.15 Maestro. A profile of the wayward football genius, George Best.
- 11.00 Newsnight. 11.45 Weather.
- 11.50 Open University: Ethnology: News to Newsrooms. 12.15 Development in a Turkish Village. Ends at 12.45.

CHANNEL 4

- 2.30 The Human Jungle: Duel Control. The psychiatrist's patient this week in a young woman who lives in the shadow of her successful sister. Her confidence is so undermined that she throws herself in front of a taxi in order to gain attention.
- 3.25 Film: Phoney Express (1943) starring the Three Stooges, clearing the Three Stooges' patent medicine sellers who are mistaken for detectives by a gang of bank robbers. Directed by Del Lord.
- 3.45 Years Ahead. A magazine programme for the older viewer, presented by Robert Douglas. The programme includes Betty Foster demonstrating how to make all kinds of seams without using a needle and thread; and a film in the Access slot made by undergarment designer John Longhurst of Cambridge that makes plain the good and the bad points of wheelchairs and the problems faced by those who are confined to them.
- 4.30 Countdown.
- 4.30 Bewitched. Samantha tells her uncle that she is cross with her mother for encouraging the baby to use its power of magic.
- 5.30 Making the Most Of... The final programme of the series on inexpensive leisure pursuits. Ashley Jackson puts on an indoor show to the still life painting in pastels. Mike Smith has advice on picture framing; and Heather Angel explains how to take top-class photographs with an inexpensive camera.
- 6.00 The Avengers. Speed returns from his holiday to find Mrs Peel gone and her place taken by a mysterious woman.
- 6.50 Off the Record. Steve Blackett talks to Tessa Sanderson about her record collection.
- 7.00 Comment. With his view on a matter of topical importance is Robert Hutchison, a research fellow at the Policy Studies Institute. Weather.
- 8.00 Brookside. Pat makes his singing debut at the club.
- 8.30 Holiday Talk. Pamela Stephenson tells Lesley Judd why she took her baby on a holiday to the Los Angeles Disneyland; and Vickie Leon, author of the Moneywise guide to California, has tips on getting the most from your dollars.
- 9.00 Film: Mother, Jugs and Speed (1973) starring Bill Crosby, Rachel Welch and Harvey Keitel. A black comedy about a private ambulance company in a desperate struggle with another firm to service a section and hospital. Directed by Peter Yates.
- 10.45 Black on Black. Among the guests are Little Richard who talks about sex, drugs, rock 'n' roll and God. He also performs his new gospel music: Tam David-West, the Nigerian singer, minister, on the prospects of an oil-price war; and Sir Shridath Ramphal, the Commonwealth secretary general talking about the role of the Commonwealth.
- 11.40 Closedown.

CHOICE

television coverage of the Vietnam war (like M.A.S.H., someone says, only bigger), having first swung American public opinion in favour of the conflict, then swung it the other way, and with pictures of the Tet offensive that marked the end of American intervention and paved the way for President Johnson's departure from the White House. Tabloid power was very evident, too, in the television pictures of the bloody Saigon business, the battle of Grosvenor Square, and the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. But when it comes to the destructive power of the TV news camera, there is nothing in tonight's film to touch the fall of Richard Nixon. Denied the opportunity of covering the actual Watergate break-in, the cameras

eventually got generous compensation: they were there to record the casting of votes to impeach the disgraced President.

● Radio highlights: A PERFECT COLOSSAL TIME (Radio 4, 4.00pm) is Andrew Green's tongue-in-cheek account of Clara Butt's tour of the Antipodes in 1908 which, though triumphant in terms of capacity audiences and public adulation, was marred by the lack of column inches devoted to it in the only paper considered by Mr Green and Dame Clara to be worthy of mention, The Daily Telegraph... I also liked Tom Hutchinson's RAYMOND CHANDLER IN HOLLYWOOD (Radio 4, 12.27pm) which shows that the impact Hollywood had on the creator of Philip Marlowe was as powerful as the impact he had on Hollywood.

Peter Daville

Radio 4

- On long wave. 1.00 VHF stereo. 5.55 Shipping. 6.00 News Briefing. Weather. 6.10 Farming. 6.25 7.00 News.
- 6.30 Today. 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News. 8.55, 9.55 Weather. 7.00, 8.00 News. 7.20 Letters. 7.25, 8.25 Sport. 7.45 Thought for the Day. 8.35 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57 Weather. Travel.
- 5.00 News.
- 5.05 Tuesday Call. 01-580 4444 - The Weather. Questions to Bill Foggett and John Hinchey.
- 10.00 News. From Our Own Correspondent.
- 10.30 Morning Story. "A Disgrace to School, Religion and Country". Written and read by Julie Collins.
- 11.45 Daily Service New Every Morning. page 21.
- 11.50 News. The minute Theatre: "Never Laugh at a Hypochondriac" by Patricia Chapman. With Patricia Hodge and Alison Steadman. A man's past and present get friends meet.
- 11.53 Wildlife.
- 12.30 The World and Yours. Paul Henny with news and advice for commuters.
- 12.27 Raymond Chandler in Hollywood. Film critic Tom Hutchinson looks at the love-life relationship between a man and a city (see Choice).
- 12.55 Weather.
- 1.00 The World and Yours. News.
- 1.40 The Archers. 1.58 Shipping Forecast.
- 2.00 News. Women's Hour. Includes an investigation by Gabrielle MacPhedran into ethnic minority programmes on television, and a case of Shadow on Our Skin.
- 3.00 The Afternoon Play: Summer Visitors, by Stephen Garry. With Saeed Jaffrey. A hostile reception for an Indian family in a village in Devon.
- 4.00 News. A Perfectly Colossal Time. A chronicle of Clara Butt's impact on King Edward's antipodean dominions. Presented by Andrew Green (see Choice).
- 4.45 Story No. 1. "Miss Mole" by E. H. Young. Abridged in ten parts (7). Read by June Marsh.
- 5.00 PM News Magazine. 5.50 Shipping Forecast. 5.55 Weather.

Radio 3

- 6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Morning Concert. Mozart's Symphony in D major K 19 (Cerefax) under Votto.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 105.3kHz/285m; 106.9kHz/275m; Radio 2: 98.3kHz/433m; 90.9kHz/330m; Radio 3: 121.5kHz/247m; VHF: 90-92.5. Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m; VHF: 92-95; LBC 115.2kHz/261m; VHF: 97.3; Capital: 154.8kHz/194m; VHF: 95.8; BBC Radio London 145.8kHz/206m; VHF: 94.9. World Service FM 64.8kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

- YORKSHIRE** As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 News. 1.00-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 Country Practice. 5.15-5.45 Dreams. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am News. Closedown.
- TVS** As London except: 1.20pm-1.30 News. 1.30-2.30 Country Practice. 3.30-4.00 News. 5.15-5.45 News and daughters. 6.00 Coast to coast. 6.25 Police 5. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am News. Closedown.
- CENTRAL** As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 News. 1.00-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 News and daughters. 6.00 Coast to coast. 6.25 Police 5. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am News. Closedown.
- ANGLIA** As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 News. 1.00-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 News and daughters. 6.00 Coast to coast. 6.25 Police 5. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am News. Closedown.
- GRAMPIAN** As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 News. 1.00-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 News and daughters. 6.00 Coast to coast. 6.25 Police 5. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am News. Closedown.

TYNE TEES

- As London except. 3.00-3.30 Nothing But The Best. 5.15-5.45 Vintage Quiz. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am News. Closedown.
- CHANNEL** As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 News. 1.00-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 News and daughters. 6.00 Coast to coast. 6.25 Police 5. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am News. Closedown.
- ULSTER** As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 News. 1.00-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 News and daughters. 6.00 Coast to coast. 6.25 Police 5. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am News. Closedown.
- HTV WEST** As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 News. 1.00-1.30 News. 3.30-4.00 News and daughters. 6.00 Coast to coast. 6.25 Police 5. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.25am News. Closedown.
- HTV WALES** As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.35 News at six.

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THE TIMES
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Tomorrow

Taxing time
Sarah Hogg reveals
the brains behind
the Budget

Stage struck

One man's dream
— an American
national theatre

Lord Louis

Ziegler's biography of
Mountbatten reviewed
by Lord Blake

Rugby lesson

RFU training chief
Don Rutherford on
the Australians

Portfolio

There were two winners in The Times Portfolio Competition yesterday. Mr John Anderson, of Sunderland, and Mrs Edith Pittwell, of Caversham, Berkshire, each received £2,000 — the total prize money was £4,000 because no-one won on Monday. Portfolio list, page 18; how to play, information service, back page.
On Saturday, £22,000 can be won; the weekly prize of £20,000 and the daily £2,000.

US vetoes
resolution
on Israel

Ignoring threats of Shia reprisals against its citizens in Lebanon, the US vetoed a resolution in the Security Council which would have condemned the Israeli crackdown in southern Lebanon. The voting was 11-1 and Britain was one of three members to abstain.

Thatcher on violence, page 4.

Crime increase

Recorded crimes rose by 8 per cent last year to 3,500,000 and the solving of offences fell to 35 per cent from 37 per cent, according to the Home Office.

Page 2

Tehran bombed

Iraq stepped up its war with Iran, bombing six cities including Tehran, which was left in a state of shock.

Page 7

Fighter delay

The introduction of the Tornado F2 Britain's new air defence fighter, is being slowed by delays in developing its advanced radar.

Page 5

Libyan jailed

A Libyan student who took part in a bombing campaign in London against fellow countrymen was jailed by the Central Criminal Court for 15 years.

Page 3

Sinclair plant

Sir Clive Sinclair is seeking £50 million to finance a plant for making a new type of microchip. Mr Robb Wilmut, chairman of ICL, will head the project.

Page 19

Olympic boost

East Germany do not intend to boycott the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, according to the vice-chairman of the country's National Sports Federation.

David Miller, page 22

SPECIAL REPORT

One reporter and one television cameraman last year brought the horrors of hungry Ethiopia to our sitting rooms. A three-page Special Report looks at the technology that made it all possible.

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Leader page 13
Letters: On Civil Service unions, from Mr Gerry Gilman, and Mr Tony Christopher, detention centres, from Lord Elton
Leading articles: Housing, Homeopathy; Taxes
Features, pages 10-12
Gorbachov's message to Britain; Lebanon's radical tradition; Private Waugh: a revealing manuscript for "fringe" respectability for "fringe" health; Reading between the sheets: the message of a woman's bedroom
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West to talk with
Gorbachov after
Chernenko funeral

From Richard Owen, Moscow

World leaders, including Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Vice-President George Bush, arrived in Moscow last night for the funeral today of President Chernenko. President Mitterrand of France arrives this morning.

Western leaders will seize the chance to hold talks with Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, aged 54, the new Soviet leader, who succeeded Mr Chernenko in a remarkably swift transition on Monday and is expected to give the Kremlin a new style and image. Mr Chernenko died on Sunday evening at the age of 73 after only 13 months in power.

There was disappointment in Moscow that President Reagan had not set the seal on renewed Soviet-American dialogue by attending. But diplomats expressed the hope that Mr Reagan and Mr Gorbachov might hold an early summit, perhaps after the spring session of the Supreme Soviet, when Mr Gorbachov is expected to be elected president as well.

Vice-President Bush, who also attended the funeral of Brezhnev and Andropov, arrived with a message for Mr Gorbachov from Mr Reagan but did not divulge its contents. Accompanied by Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, he paid his respects to Mr Chernenko at the lying-in-state at the Hall of Columns yesterday evening. Mrs Thatcher will do the same this morning.

Mr Chernenko will be buried with full state honours on Red Square at 13.40 Moscow time. The change of guard in the Kremlin coincides with a new East-West dialogue and the opening of Soviet-American

arms talks in Geneva after a hiatus of a year and a half.

Mr Gorbachov, passed over in previous succession crises because of his relative youth, is seen as a pragmatist at home and abroad. In his acceptance speech, which appeared in *Pravda* yesterday with a prominent front-page photograph of him, he spoke of economic reform in domestic affairs and detente and arms control with the West.

The world would "sigh with relief" if agreement were

| | |
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reached at the Geneva talks, which opened yesterday. Mr Bush came to Moscow Geneva yesterday.

Mr Gorbachov is already known in the West as a relatively sophisticated and quick-witted politician because of his trip to Britain in December. Observers said they expected Mrs Thatcher to expand on this "special relationship" and to underline Mr Gorbachov's links with London.

The Prime Minister arrived at Sheremetyevo airport in an RAF VC10, accompanied by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader, is in the delegation, with Mr David Owen of the SDP and Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader.

Few countries other than Britain send opposition leaders as well as heads of government unless they had ties with Russian leaders when in power.

On previous occasions — the deaths of Andropov and Brezhnev — British opposition leaders have said the practice serves to demonstrate to the Russians that Britain is a democracy.

China is represented by Mr Li Peng, Deputy Prime Minister. On Monday Mr Gorbachov signalled Moscow's desire for improved relations with Peking as well as the West, but diplomats said the Sino-Soviet atmosphere remained cool.

As during the Brezhnev and Andropov funerals, today's ceremonies on Red Square will be followed by intense diplomatic contacts, both between foreign leaders and the Russians and between visiting heads of government.

Chancellor Kohl of West Germany is in Moscow, as is Mr Roland Dumas, the French Foreign Minister, who arrived on Sunday, the day of President Chernenko's death.

He held talks with Mr Gromyko on Monday, interpreted by diplomats as a sign that the Kremlin wanted to underline the swift succession by conducting "business as usual."

Last night Herr Kohl met Herr Erich Honecker of East Germany for talks, the first meeting between the East and West German leaders since Andropov's funeral.

Italy is represented both by President Pertinini and by the Prime Minister, Bettino Craxi.

Mr Chernenko lay in state at the ornate Hall of Columns near Red Square yesterday. Artillery salutes will be fired today in Moscow and other Soviet cities, and factories across Russia will

Continued on back page, col 4

New leader approved arms
team tactics last week

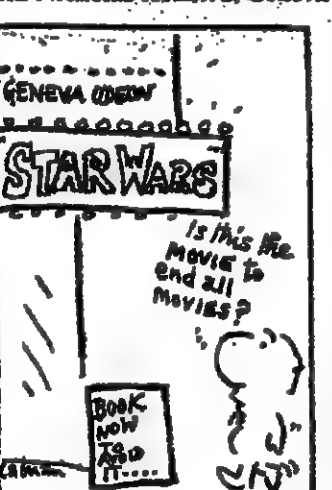
From Nicholas Ashford, Geneva

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the new Soviet leader, presided over a meeting of the Politburo last Thursday, four days before the death of President Chernenko, which approved the negotiating instructions for the Soviet delegation to the Geneva arms talks. Mr Viktor Karpov revealed yesterday.

The leader of the Soviet negotiators made his commitment as the two teams embarked on what is expected to be a long and difficult search for ways of reducing and eventually eliminating nuclear weapons from the face of the earth.

The three American negotiators arrived at the Soviet mission on the dot of 11 o'clock for their first formal meeting with the head of the Soviet delegation.

After stopping to sign a book of condolence for the death of President Chernenko, they were ushered into the room where the SALT II agreement was negotiated six years ago. The 24-hour meeting was significant more for its symbolism than its substance, marking the start of a new round of arms talks after a gap of 13 months and heralding, it is hoped, a period of reduced



tension between the Superpowers.

As Senator Edward Kennedy, who is in Geneva as part of a Senate observer team, loyally remarked: "The talks offer an opportunity for a century of peace."

However, yesterday's meeting immediately highlighted one of the problems which is expected to dog the talks from the outset. Whereas Mr Max Kampelman, the chief US

negotiator, was accompanied by his two colleagues, Mr Aleksei Karpov, was alone.

The difference in the way the two sides were represented underscored a basic disagreement over the relationship between the three sets of talks which will take place under the same negotiating "umbrella".

The talks, which are being officially referred to as the "nuclear and space talks" will deal with intermediate range, strategic and space weapons.

The Americans want to sign agreements in any of the three sets of talks and when they are achieved. The Soviet Union wants to reach agreement in all three sets of talks before signing an overall arms pact.

Moscow has threatened to delay agreement on intermediate range or strategic weapons until it has got a deal on space weapons, generally considered the most difficult of the three groups of talks.

The Soviet and American negotiators did immediately agree on one point, that their proceedings will be kept secret. "We agreed on the principle

Continued on back page, col 2

Setback for mortgage hopes

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Chancellor's hopes of delivering a base rate cut with his Budget next Tuesday, and so head off a further mortgage rate rise, received a jolt yesterday.

Bank of England figures showed money supply grew faster last month than City economists had been expecting, while another bout of volatility in currency markets suggested caution on any cut in interest rates.

The money supply figures showed the sterling M3 measure rose by 0.5 per cent in the February banking month — 9.5 per cent more than 12 months earlier.

Financial markets, however,

had expected no growth or a small fall in money supply, paving the way for an early base rate cut.

Even before the figures were published yesterday afternoon, movements on the foreign exchanges were causing concern. The pound rose to \$1.11, but tumbled to \$1.0770 as dealers decided the dollar's recent fall was overdue.

The pound eventually closed at \$1.0912 in London, up a third of a cent on the day, and the sterling index gained 0.2 to 71.8. Later in New York, the pound was quoted at \$1.0875.

Although the money figures were worse than the City had

expected, the Treasury and Bank of England are not likely to regard them as any bar to lower interest rates.

The chances of lower base rates before Thursday of next week, when the building societies meet to discuss raising mortgage rates, depend crucially on the pound's performance.

The building society industry gave warning yesterday that a mortgage rate rise was virtually inevitable following figures showing a 50 per cent fall in deposit inflows last month. They fell from £223 million in January to £474 million.

Leading article, page 13
Kenneth Fleet, page 19

Harrods luxury in store for world's main cities

By William Kay
City Editor

If the super-rich Egyptian Al-Fayed family have their way, every important city in the world will have its own branch of Harrods. And anyone who can afford it will be able to buy a range of luxury Harrods goods, from cigarettes and perfume to ice-cream, furniture and even holidays.

That is the main reason why the Al-Fayeds — three brothers and two sisters, led by 51-year-old Mohamed — made such a dramatic play this week to gain control of House of Fraser, the public company which owns Harrods. The group's other 101 stores round the country, including Kendal Mill, in Manchester, Arncliffe in Scotland and Rackhams in Bir-

mingham, will have to pay their own way.

Some of the other Fraser stores may be given a touch of the Harrods magic. That has happened with Dickens and Jones, in London's Regent Street, which is now described as "a Harrods store".

"But we must be very careful to preserve the value of the Harrods name," says Mohamed Al-Fayed. "If everyone could use it, the name would become devalued and ultimately worthless. We will not allow that to happen. We will defend it and indeed enhance it. Harrods is the best retailing name in the world, and it has for various reasons been underused."

That was why the family bought into House of Fraser



Ali Al-Fayed: Tokyo would be the model

last November. Latham, the international trading group run by Mr Roland "Tiny" Rawland, wanted to sell its 29 per cent stake in Fraser. The Al-



Moscow-bound: Mrs Thatcher leaving for the funeral yesterday.

Secret summit on
miners' leadership

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Leaders of the Nottinghamshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers have called a "summit" meeting with union officials from other moderate Midlands coalfields to seek a coalition of dissident groupings against the union's national leadership.

The meeting, which will be attended by NUM leaders from south Derbyshire and Leicestershire, is to be held at a secret venue later this week, and was being arranged yesterday as the union leadership in south Wales won back control of area funds in a High Court hearing.

In a judgement which could influence the future control of national union funds that are still sequestered, Mr Justice Scott said he was not "overtroubled" by the fact that the south Wales leaders had not given a formal apology to the court for their contempt by refusing to call off unlawful secondary picketing of a Forest of Dean haulage contractor.

National union leaders last week decided that they were not prepared to apologise to the court in order to recover the £8.5m funds which were sequestered following failure to pay a £200,000 contempt fine.

Mr Justice Scott heard that of the £707,000 south Wales funds seized by the court about £550,000 would be returned after payment of the original £50,000 contempt fine and court and sequestration costs.

"In my judgement the fines and the writs of sequestration have now imposed on the union adequate punishment for its breaches of injunctions," the judge said.

The meeting of the three Midlands area executives, which represent about 45,000 of the NUM's 186,000 membership, has been called to discuss "mutual interests" according to Mr Roy Lynk, acting general secretary of the Nottinghamshire area.

"We don't intend to sit back on our own and be knocked over one by one," said Mr Lynk.

Dismissal bar, page 2

Rate-cap
rebels call
for talks

Labour councillors yesterday brushed aside threats of bankruptcy and voted to prolong their defiance of the Government, despite mounting setbacks. Hugh Clayton writes.

Councils facing rate-capping and grant penalties decided at a meeting in London to demand bargaining with ministers who have refused it.

Their campaign was denied last week by the Greater London Council's acceptance of the spending limit imposed under the rate capping laws.

Today Newcastle upon Tyne city council is to pass a rate rise of 23 per cent.

That goes against the policy of many Labour councils of resisting cuts in services and their labour forces while keeping rate rises down to the level of the rise in the cost of living.

The policy committee of the Labour-led Leeds city council voted yesterday for a rate rise of more than 10 per cent that would allow spending within Government guidelines.

More GPs
opting for
alternatives

A growing number of family doctors is turning to some of the treatments of "alternative" medicine, and many more would like to practice such therapies as acupuncture, hypnotherapy and osteopathy, a survey published today, says.

The doctors are opting for the "alternative" because they find that conventional forms of treatment, drugs in particular, are not appropriate for the needs of their patients, or because their patients do not find them satisfactory.

The survey, commissioned by *The Times* and the Koestler Foundation, shows that a higher proportion of doctors actually practice one or more of the alternative, or "complementary" therapies.

Many refer patients to doctors who use them, and 26 per cent of the doctors in the survey had received "alternative" treatment of some kind themselves.

Alternative road, page 10
Leading article, page 13

Queen to
get new
armoured
train

By Richard Evans

The Royal Train is to be replaced at a cost of more than £7.5 million because it is obsolete and would not provide adequate protection against terrorists.

Specially strengthened carriages capable of travelling at more than 100mph, instead of a maximum of 70mph, will be brought into service over the next four years.

Most existing vehicles, between 29 and 44 years old, do not meet current operational and security requirements, the Department of Transport says. Several contain asbestos.

Mr David Mitchell, a junior transport minister, told the Commons yesterday the new Royal Train fleet, with two carriages for security officials and police officers, would have a service life of at least 30 years.

Mr Peter Snape, a Labour transport spokesman, said: "There are many sections of BR that could do with £7.5 million worth of investment, such as replacing the clapped out trains on the West Midlands line."

"The Government is always saying any new investment in the railways has to be cost-effective. I wonder how the cost-effectiveness of this investment has been worked out."

In 1976, £500,000 was spent on four of the existing 13 carriages, including the Queen's and Duke's saloons, in preparation for the Silver Jubilee tour of Britain. Those vehicles are to be improved, the rest scrapped.

Eight carriages will be converted from new or surplus rolling stock and two new vehicles will be built to complete the revamped fleet.

New security measures are expected to include bullet proof windows and carriages strengthened to withstand explosions.

The new fleet, which will consist of the Queen's saloon and Duke's saloon, with sleeping accommodation, and two principal saloons for other members of the Royal Family or guests.

A dining saloon will be for the exclusive use of the Royal Family, while a dining car will provide food for 54 household staff. Two saloons and two sleeping cars will be reserved for household and BR staff.

Francome's costly fall

A dramatic fall in the previous race deprived John Francome, the champion jockey, of the winning ride on See You Then in the Waterford Crystal Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham yesterday.

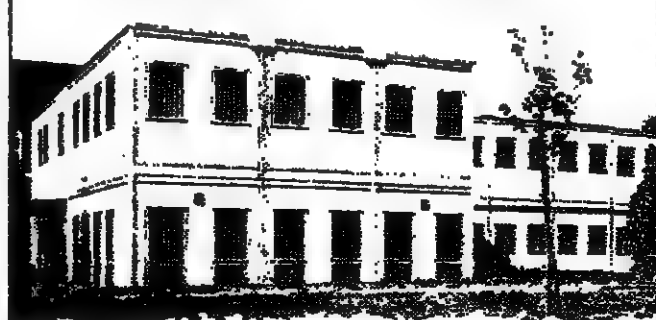
After The Rejected had fallen in the Arkle Trophy, Francome was dragged along with his leg trapped in the stirrups. He was badly shaken and had to give up his remaining rides.

Steve Smith Eccles, replacing Francome, rode a copybook race on See You Then. The winner started at 16-1 with Robin Wonder (66-1) second and Stan's Pride (11-1) third.

Browne's Gazette, the odds-on favourite, forfeited his chance when he swerved violently at the start and almost ran out.

Cheltenham reports, page 24

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YORKON
It's changing people's ideas about building

Hopes fade, page 19

Recorded crime rises by 8% but miners' strike not to blame, report says

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Recorded crimes rose by 8 per cent last year, compared with a 1 per cent fall in 1983, according to the Home Office Statistical Bulletin published yesterday.

The number of offences connected with the miners' strike were described as very small compared with the national total of 3.5 million recorded offences. "Nor can any possible indirect effects on recorded offences, including any consequences of the redeployment of police be satisfactorily estimated."

The annual increase in recorded crime since 1977 has averaged 4 per cent, with rises of 10 per cent in 1981 and 1982. Last year, the percentage of offences solved fell to 35 per cent from 37 per cent in 1983. It was 40 per cent in 1980.

The Bulletin says that the most recent increase in recorded crime appears to have started in the fourth quarter of 1983, before the miners' dispute began. But seasonally adjusted figures show a figure of 833,900, compared with 833,100 in the fourth quarter of 1982. By the fourth quarter of last year, the figure was 899,900.

Increases in recorded crime in some mining areas, but not

all, are above average: South Yorkshire (15 per cent); Durham (13 per cent); Northumbria (13 per cent) and North Yorkshire (10 per cent).

But Dyfed-Powys recorded a 15 per cent increase and it has only two mines in the area. Nottinghamshire had a 4 per cent rise only.

In England and Wales, robberies were numbered about 24,900 in 1984, 13 per cent higher than in 1983 and 9 per cent higher than in 1982.

Offences solved

| | 1980 | 1982 | 1984 |
|---------------------------------|------|------|------|
| Violence against person | 77 | 78 | 74 |
| Sexual offences | 74 | 71 | 72 |
| Burglary | 31 | 29 | 28 |
| Robbery | 29 | 22 | 22 |
| Theft and handling stolen goods | 39 | 37 | 35 |
| Fraud and forgery | 75 | 69 | 66 |
| Criminal damage | 28 | 26 | 26 |
| Others | 87 | 83 | 83 |
| Total | 40 | 37 | 35 |

*Includes drug trafficking from 1983.

Recorded burglaries were 10 per cent higher than in 1983.

The General Household Survey and the British Crime Survey suggest that a higher percentage of burglaries in the 10 years to 1982 were reported to the police.

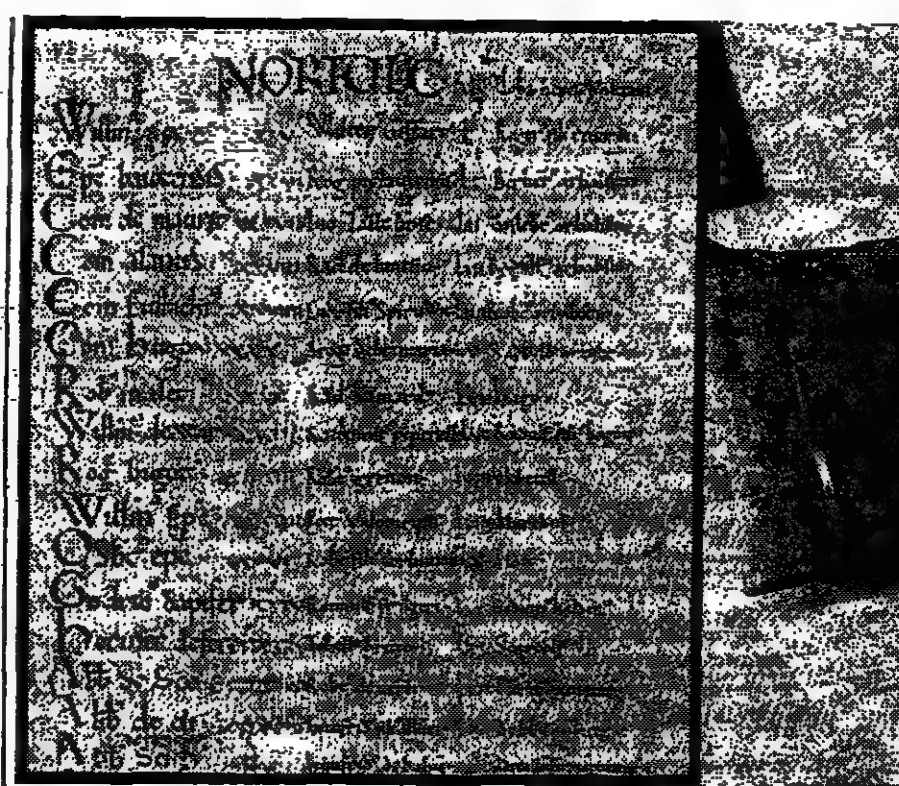
Thefts account for more than half of notifiable offences recorded. Recorded thefts and handling stolen goods rose by 6 per cent in 1984.

The Metropolitan Police recorded a 9 per cent increase in crime over 1983, with the overall clear-up rate staying at 17 per cent. However, there was a 5 per cent increase in arrests.

Robberies were up by 13 per cent, with street robbery of personal property "mugging", 11 per cent higher.

The Metropolitan Police say the effect of the miners' strike is unknown. But officers supplied to police picket reduced those on duty in London. "This may have contributed to the reduced number of arrests made by police during that period."

Home Office Statistical Bulletin (Notifiable Offences Recorded by the Police in England and Wales 1984, £1.50p. Available from: Statistical Department, Home Office, Tower Tower, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 7DS.)



The Public Record Office yesterday unveiled its plans for the Domesday Book's 900th birthday party next year. The 800 pages of sheepskin parchments, divided into two volumes, are being taken apart with a scalpel inside a top-security cage at the office's extension in Kew, south-west London.

They are to be rebound in five new volumes to minimize damage to the manuscript caused by opening and displaying it, before going on show in London. "After the Bible and the Diary of Adrian Mole, Domesday is probably England's most famous book", Mrs Jane Cox, who is

organizing next year's exhibition, said. Plans to mark its 900 years include a new facsimile edition to be presented to the Queen. A page of the Domesday Book is shown next to Mr John Abbott at work restoring the pages

(Photograph: Bill Warhurst)

Jehovah's Witness in murder of widow

Christine Sawbridge, aged 16, a Jehovah's Witness, was sentenced yesterday to be "detained during Her Majesty's Pleasure" for the murder of a widow of 84 she met while visiting religious magazines.

Earlier yesterday her boyfriend, Trevor Campbell, aged 20, was jailed for life after being convicted of murdering the widow, Mrs Ebel Cawood. Mrs Cawood was hit with a milk bottle and stabbed 19 times in a "frenzied attack" at her home in White Road, Smeeth, West Midlands. Mr Desmond Perrett, QC, for the prosecution said.

Mr Perrett told the jury that Sawbridge came from a family of devout Jehovah's witnesses and delivered copies of the magazines *Watchtower* and *Awake* to Mrs Cawood. He said that Sawbridge and Campbell decided to rob Mrs Cawood, and took £100 from her house, but missed £500 she had hidden.

Campbell allegedly told police in a statement that during the attack Mrs Cawood called out: "Oh Christine, Oh Christine, please help me."

Sawbridge was said to have told police that she returned to the house to collect a bracelet she had forgotten while helping Mrs Cawood with her household chores. Campbell suddenly attacked Mrs Cawood, and she had wanted to stop him, but "just couldn't move". The jury, both defendants had denied the charge.

Pollution fine

The Coalite company was fined a total of £1,200 by Barnsley magistrates yesterday after admitting two offences of polluting the river Deane, killing hundreds of fish, between Grimethorpe and Mexborough.

Humber oil slick

Three hundred tons of crude oil which spilled from a Liberian tanker in the Humber estuary was being dispersed yesterday by spraying from aircraft and a Grimsby tug.

Hurd says O Fiaich view 'old fashioned'

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The Roman Catholic Primate of all Ireland was criticized yesterday by Mr Douglas Hurd, secretary of State for Northern Ireland, for having a "rather old-fashioned" view on partition and the inevitability of a united Ireland.

In the latest criticism of remarks by Cardinal Tomas O Fiaich, Mr Hurd said that in his six months in the province the argument had moved on to other areas and away from the question of partition. But he said he did not think the cardinal's comments, made in Boston, Massachusetts, had caused irreparable harm to the prospects of dialogue.

Since saying that partition was the "fundamental crux" and that British withdrawal was the only solution to the conflict in Northern Ireland, the cardinal has been fiercely criticized by Unionist politicians and a prominent government backbencher in the Republic of Ireland.

Bail refused

Bail was refused in the High Court in Belfast yesterday to a Newry man, charged in connection with the mortar bomb attack on Newry police station in which nine RUC officers died.

Paul Maguire, aged 30, is accused of the murder of three of those killed and a Crown lawyer said further charges would be preferred.

MPs' group will fight racism

By Pat Healy

Race Relations Correspondent

Concern at worsening conditions for black Britons has led members of all the main political parties to form the first All-Party Parliamentary Group on Race Relations.

Ms Clare Short, Labour MP for Birmingham Ladywood, who chairs the new group, said at its launching in the House of Commons yesterday, that she had been forced to think deeply about becoming involved because she could not compromise her position on race issues.

But the situation for black Britons was as bad as ever, with "racism on the streets, racial harassment and clear evidence of racial discrimination". If things were not to deteriorate further, the parties were right to link up to raise "the bottom line of what is acceptable in race relations".

Racial monitoring opposed, page 5

NUT widens battle over pay docking

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

As teachers' strikes continue to disrupt children's education throughout the country, the National Union of Teachers decided yesterday to extend the legal battle against local authorities.

The biggest teachers' union announced it would be taking Solihull Council to court, in addition to Newcastle upon Tyne, if it did not withdraw a letter saying that teachers would have £2 deducted every time they refused to cover for an absent colleague.

Mr Nicholas Bardsley, deputy town clerk of Solihull, said the authority would not withdraw the letter and would defend any legal action. "Frankly, this is a move that the council was expecting and it does not come as a surprise," he told *The Times*.

The union decided to resort to the law because of legal advice it received from Mr Thomas Morrison, QC. There is suspicion too that the union felt it could not allow increasing numbers of authorities to dock pay for refusal to carry out voluntary work, which it considered voluntary. Sixteen councils have decided to start docking pay for refusal to do those duties.

Test case on hunting nears end

From Tim Jones

Bristol

A test case which could affect hunts throughout the country is coming to an end in the High Court in Bristol. In the action, which began two weeks ago, the League Against Cruel Sports is seeking to have the members, supporters and hounds of the Devon and Somerset Stag-hounds banned from 2,000 acres of wildlife sanctuary on Exmoor.

The outcome of the case could be crucial to the way in which hunts are conducted, for it is thought it will decide whether hounds can be regarded in law as trespassers.

The league wants Mr Justice Park to grant a permanent injunction against the organization, which hunts red deer on the moor.

When he opened the case Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, for the league, said he believed after researching legal precedents, that it was the first time a landowner had brought an action in the High Court against the local hunt for trespassing.

The league is seeking to extend and make permanent a temporary injunction granted in March, 1983, and asks for damages for trespasses already committed.

In addition, the league wants a declaration that the hunt cannot enter or trespass on its land and an injunction restraining the defendants or their agents from entering or crossing their land.

Mr Justice Park has already told the three defendants, Mr Maurice Scott, of Brendon Hill Farm, Watchet, Mrs Norah Harding, of Timbacombe, Minehead, and Mr Michael Robinson, of West Hacketty, Porlock, joint hunt masters, that the league has a right to expect that its sanctuaries should not be invaded by hounds.

The hunt, which claims more than 1,000 supporters on horseback, foot or in cars has said enormous efforts are made to stop hounds entering those areas but that "dogs don't know anything about boundaries".

Boarding school roll falls

By Lucy Hodges

Education Correspondent

The Boarding Schools Association reported yesterday a fall in the number of pupils sent to independent schools with, as a result, some schools facing closure.

The number of boarders declined by 1,500 last year, Miss Joan Sadler, principal of Cheltenham Ladies College, and the association's chairman, told its annual conference.

One small independent boarding school, Luckton, in Leominster, closed down and nearly 15 per cent of state boarding places were under threat.

New figures, produced last month by the Department of Education and Science, also show that the number of independent schools fell by 11 in 1984. However, the drop in pupil numbers in the independent sector was proportionately smaller than for the state sector.

Miss Sadler emphasized that there were good signs for the state boarding sector: Wyndham College had survived, although with fewer boarding places, as well as Elmbridge School, in Essex. At the same time, a new comprehensive boarding school had opened at Dallam School, Milnthorpe.

She also reported that Lancing had doubled its number of girls boarders and Warwick School had reversed its decision to stop all boarding. But Luckton had to close because of financial difficulties.

Miss Sadler told the conference: "The school that is small is vulnerable. One may deplore the failure of any company that goes into liquidation, but surely we must not allow the failure of a few small boarding schools to be read as an indictment of the whole of the independent boarding sector."

The Times overseas selling prices: £2.75p, Canada \$3.75p, Hong Kong \$4.50p, India \$3.50p, Japan \$4.50p, New Zealand \$3.50p, Singapore \$3.50p, South Africa \$3.50p, USA \$3.50p, West Indies \$3.50p, Zimbabwe \$3.50p.

Union starts fight for lost pit jobs

By Staff Reporters

The campaign to win back the jobs of 205 Scottish miners dismissed during the coal strike began in earnest yesterday. Five men who had been dismissed according to the National Union of Mineworkers, for trivial offences during the strike, were produced at a press conference in Edinburgh.

The union said their cases typified selective and insensitive treatment by the National Coal Board. The campaign began as 250 miners went back to work at Polmaise Colliery near Striving, the last pit in Britain to return.

The delay marked the reluctance of men to go back without 12 of their workmates dismissed because of their activities during the strike.

A study by miners in Lothian claims to show that 70 per cent of the men sacked in the region were union branch officials, committee members or strike committee members, adding to

their belief that the dismissals were selective.

Mr Jackie Aitchison, aged 38, a development worker and union official at Bilston Glen colliery, told the press conference he was arrested for breach of the peace, obstruction and resisting arrest, acquitted, and yet dismissed for gross industrial misconduct.

Mr John Glen, aged 49, a NUM branch secretary at Monktonhall colliery, was arrested for obstruction and for being part of a disorderly crowd. The court admonished him and six weeks later he was dismissed.

The rebel Nottinghamshire area of the NUM will contest any legal action brought by its sacked general secretary, Mr Henry Richardson, to challenge the decision to remove him from office. Mr Roy Link, acting general secretary said yesterday.

Policing of miners cost extra £225m

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

The final cost of policing the miners' strike has increased by about £225 million, according to latest figures.

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities has been told it faces further costs of £41 million for six police authorities. But of that £35 million is expected to be paid in grants from the Home Office.

Therefore the extra cost for the six councils will be £6 million. According to the Association of County Councils, the additional cost for another 35 police authorities will be £180 million. Of that, £170 million is expected from Home Office police grants.

The cost of the strike to the British Steel Corporation will be about £175 million in the present financial year, the chairman, said last night.

Legal poser over dismissals

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Miners convicted of criminal offences who face dismissal by the National Coal Board cannot automatically be removed because of their criminal record, according to industrial tribunal case law.

Six hundred and seventy-seven miners have been dismissed by the board, but the board has emphasized that only those convicted of deliberate sabotage or violence against their fellow workers, the police or the public would not be reinstated.

A criminal conviction per se, however, is not sufficient reason for dismissal. The board would have to convince an industrial tribunal that it had acted reasonably in the circumstances in reaching its decision.

Under the code of practice on disciplinary procedures issued by the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service, the main consideration is whether the offence is one which makes the individual employee "unsuitable for his or her type of work, or unacceptable to other employees".

Tribunals have held that a conviction not related directly to a place of work, but which

would have a bearing on the employee's type of work, such as an accountant convicted of theft, would be a ground for dismissal.

In one case reported in 1978 a teacher at a private children's home was convicted of homosexual acts elsewhere. His dismissal by Nottinghamshire County Council was upheld.

Where the conviction is for assault on a policeman, dismissals may be harder for the board to sustain before the courts. Assault on another miner, however, which the board could argue makes the employee "unacceptable to other employees", would probably be held as another ground for dismissal.

In a case in 1977, a technical manager brought a claim for unfair dismissal against his employers, Golden Wonder, after he was convicted of assault on a fellow worker at a company social function away from the workplace. Both the industrial tribunal and the Tribunal upheld the dismissal.

Claims for unfair dismissal

where miners have been convicted of damage to board property are the least likely to succeed. Tribunals have even upheld dismissals where there have been no convictions, but the employer had good grounds for believing that the employee intended damage.

A Labour MP has protested to the Lord Chancellor about the case of a woman sentenced to 56 days imprisonment for a first offence, one of causing a breach of the peace on a miners' picket line, who was refused legal aid.

Ms Harriet Harman, Labour MP for Peckham, has said in a letter to Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone that the case of Jay Ginn, a single parent with two children, is of "very serious concern".

Brian Martin, aged 45, a north-east Derbyshire district councillor, and Keith Millward, aged 39, began jail sentences for masterminding an ambush of eight working miners. Both were miners from Danesmore near Chesterfield, and each got three months imprisonment for using threats and besetting miners who were on their way to work.

Unity finds favour with Catholics

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Official Roman Catholic reaction worldwide to the results of Anglican-Roman Catholic negotiations had been positive and hopeful. Cardinal Johannes Willebrands, head of the Vatican's unity secretariat, said in London yesterday.

His department is collecting

comments from local conferences of bishops on the "final" report of the Anglican-Roman Catholic International Commission, published in 1982.

Since the report three years ago, the commission has begun again with a new agenda and new membership. The indi-

cations are that it will be able to produce an agreed report on the Theology of "salvation by faith alone", disagreements on which was one of the chief causes of the Reformation.

During his visit to Britain he has had discussions with the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Iqbal Singh succeeds King Henry VIII

Lord of the Manor for £4,800

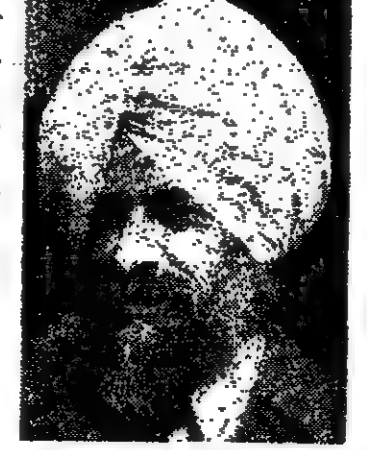
By Alan Hamilton

Mr Iqbal Singh, lately of India but now of Wiltshire, is the new Lord of the Manor of Butley in Suffolk, succeeding to a 900-year line that includes a medieval Lord Chief Justice of England, King Henry VIII, and Thomas, Duke of Norfolk.

The lordship of the manor of Butley was one of 33 that changed hands at auction in London yesterday. For £4,800 Mr Singh acquired virtually nothing at all: no lands, no property, no income, nor ancient rights of lordship, only a set of documents, some dating from the thirteenth century, which he has been strongly advised to leave thoroughly alone in their present resting-place at the Suffolk county archives.

Mr Singh said as he signed his cheque that the lordship of Butley was a present for his wife, who would become Lady of the Manor. Mr Singh's wife, he disclosed, was Swiss. "We have been looking at property, and may move there", Mr Singh said, not wishing to be questioned further on his ownership of a colourful but useless fragment of English heritage.

Surviving material rights come a great deal more expensive, as Mr Nicholas Pellett, a London insurance broker, discovered when he



Iqbal Singh: Bought title for his Swiss wife.

paid £21,200, by far the highest price of the day, for the lordship of the manor of Codicote near Stevenage, Hertfordshire. That was sold with "the royal franchise right to hold a fair in the manor on the vigil and feast of St James the Apostle and the two following days".

Mr Pellett, who lives within the manor of Codicote in a converted gamekeeper's cottage, decided to bid after reading in a newspaper that his manor was about to come on the market.

He said: "I may exercise the right to hold a fair. I am an active member of the Round Table, and may hold something for charity. I am relieved that an American did not get it." Unless he holds a fair in his own back garden, he will still have to seek the approval of local landowners before he can celebrate the Feast of St James the Apostle.

Lords of the manor once owned property, held courts, and levied rents, but their long-declining powers vanished completely under land ownership reform in 1922.

The lordships were collected by a commercial enterprise, Historical Records agency, which trawled the country for titles which had fallen into disuse or whose owners no longer wanted them. Most were sold for between £4,000 and £5,000; the sale totalled £156,800.

Some environmentalists are concerned at the public sale of lordships. Mr Duncan Mackay, of the Open Spaces Society, said yesterday that the sale of such titles removed much of the legal protection for common land within a manor, making it easier to develop.

He called for an amendment to the Commons Registration Act, 1965, which was intended to protect common land but contained serious loopholes.

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صباح الخير

Lloyd's underwriter made false insurance claims to pay yacht expenses

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr Peter Coucher, a former Lloyd's underwriter, made a series of false insurance claims to cover the running expenses of his yacht, L'Obsession, according to the report of a Lloyd's disciplinary committee.

Yesterday Lloyd's ruling council announced a notice of censure against brokers Dashwood, Brewer and Phipps, who approved the claims. The report found that Mr Eric Phipps, managing director, authorized the processing of two claims knowing that they were invalid and falsely described. It said that Mr Phipps knew or ought to have known of the other invalid claims.

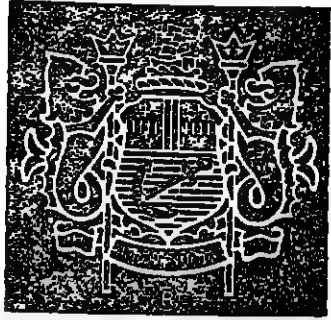
Mr Coucher, who resigned from Lloyd's in 1982 - thus avoiding disciplinary proceedings - made 28 claims, of which at least eight were invalid and 12 more were doubtful, according to the report. It says that many claims were falsely described: for example, the annual fees for berthing the yacht at Lynton in Hampshire were described as "machinery damage" and "vandal damage" in different claims.

The report also found that

the brokers approved an invalid claim for Mr Coucher relating to a motor yacht, Lady Cleopatra. The total cost of the invalid claims came to £11,000 and the money has been refunded.

According to Mr Phipps, Mr Coucher said that L'Obsession was used for entertaining business contacts and the syndicate in which he worked at Lloyd's wished to deal with running expenses by treating them as insurance claims.

The Department of Public Prosecutions has the Lloyd's report and has been kept fully informed of the progress of the disciplinary matters. How-



Lloyd's insignia and its motto "trust".

ever, it is not known whether any prosecution will be brought.

The failure of the DDP to bring any prosecutions as yet against any of the main characters in the various Lloyd's scandals has brought protests from several parties. Conservative MPs Mr Ian Grist and Mr Jonathan Aitken as well as Labour spokesman on trade Mr Bryan Gould have all asked Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, why there have been no prosecutions of cases of alleged fraud.

Mr Ian Hay Davison, Lloyd's chief executive, also said in a recent speech that criminal prosecution "would have the advantage of confirming that the authorities are on the side of the (Lloyd's) council in introducing a new regime".

● In another disciplinary matter Lloyd's council fined Mr Frederick Bradford, an underwriter, £1,000 and censured him for promoting the sale of a life protection plan through false or deceptive material. In July, 1983, Mr Bradford was found guilty of the offence in a magistrates' court and fined £500.



Golden girl: Tessa Sanderson who won the gold medal for the women's javelin at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles, went to Buckingham Palace yesterday to receive the insignia of the MBE from the Queen.



Court change forced in 'cell rape' case

Angry supporters of a woman accused of wasting police time by claiming she had been raped by two policemen forced a court to move venues yesterday because there were not enough seats for them.

The first 10 days of the trial at Manchester Magistrates' Court had been held in number

seven court, which can accommodate 60 in the gallery. Every seat has been taken by supporters of Jacqueline Berkeley, aged 21, of Haydon Avenue, Moss Side, Manchester.

When the trial resumed yesterday, the smaller court 10 had been allocated. It has 21 seats for the public.

Miss Berkeley's supporters thronged into the court during the luncheon adjournment and said they would not move until more seats were provided. Miss Berkeley had claimed she was raped by two policemen in a cell at Greenheys police station, which has not been found. All charges are denied.

The hearing continues today.

Down's baby father 'more worried at loss of car'

By Michael Horsnell

Paul Brown, the father of a Down's syndrome baby, appeared more concerned about the loss of his car than his daughter Louise, aged two weeks, when he reported both of them missing to the police, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Mr Brown, aged 30, a roofer, is accused of murdering the baby in May last year. He is alleged to have disposed of the body and reported to police that his car with the baby inside had been stolen.

Det Chief Inspector William Forman said he told Mr Brown: "If I had my baby daughter stolen that would be the first thing I would be shouting".

Mr Brown was said to have appeared nervous rather than distressed, as if he were afraid of what he was saying. He had shrugged his shoulder and replied: "You say that; it's all true".

Mr Forman said that on May 31, four days after the alleged murder, he was asked why he referred in a statement to the baby as "it".

Mr Brown allegedly replied: "I do not know. It looks bad doesn't it? We did not name it... there. I've said it again."

"We only called her Louise after she was taken because we were asked her name. We thought of Geraldine. We were going to call her that."

Mr Brown, his common law wife Susan, aged 30, who is Louise's mother, his brother Ian, aged 33, and his wife Brenda, aged 32, all from Sircatham, south London, deny conspiring to pervert the course of justice by making false statements to police designed to conceal the baby's death. Ian Brown is also charged with assisting his brother by concealing the body, which has not been found. All charges are denied.

Increase in abortions linked to cancer fear

Abortions in England and Wales have continued to rise as fears of a link between the long-term use of the contraceptive pill and cancer remain, according to the Family Planning Association last night.

Figures published by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys yesterday showed an increase in the number of abortions performed during the months of July and August and September last year of 6.3 per cent over the same months the previous year.

An even bigger increase was shown in the age groups in which the pill is most popular, with abortions in the 20 to 24 age group rising by 13.9 per cent to 12,363.

The rise came after steady increases over the previous six months.

A spokesman for the Family Planning Association said that women were still giving up the pill almost a year after reports were published linking its use with breast and cervical cancer.

"Despite assurances by the medical profession that later findings were unable to substantiate these reports, fears have remained in the minds of many women and they are unlikely to disappear overnight," Ms Zandra Pouncefort said.

Fat content to be labelled

The Government undertook yesterday to introduce statutory requirements for the labelling of food to indicate its fat content, but gave no indication of when the regulations would come into force.

It is also considering full nutrition labelling to include energy, protein and carbohydrate content. Mrs Peggy Fenner, parliamentary secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, said she would consider including sugar, dietary fibre and salt. Alcoholic drinks may also have to be labelled with the percentage of alcohol by volume.

Tooth decay campaign for young

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

A campaign to help young people in the "dangerous years" of tooth decay was launched yesterday with the message that regular visits to the dentist need be neither painful nor expensive.

The £90,000 campaign by the Health Education Council, is aimed at the 16 to 20 age group.

Research carried out during the planning of the campaign showed that young people are complacent about their teeth, some brushing only two or three times a week, and are hostile towards dentists.

"This is often because they feel uneasy and apprehensive, not only at the thought of dental treatment, but even of the trimmings and environment with which dental practices are associated," Mr Roger Bettles, the campaign director, said. "A friendly approach by receptionists and a more imaginative choice of waiting room magazines with young people in mind would make a good start."

The campaign was launched a day after the Government announced that dental charges will rise by an average of about 25 per cent. Treatment of a tooth, including two X-rays, root canal work and a filling, will now cost the patient £24.64.

Libyan is jailed for West End bombing

Salham Salem, a Libyan student who took part in a bombing campaign against exiled fellow countrymen, was jailed for 15 years at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Salem, aged 28, of Penarth Road, Cardiff, was one of a group who planted six bombs in the centre of London. One exploded in the Blue Angel Club in Berkeley Square, Mayfair, injuring 27 people. The other damaged a bookshop in Queensway, Bayswater, the same night.

Mr Justice Farquharson said it was the "worst type of crime", involving "indiscriminate and evil acts causing risk to innocent people." He said that Salem had come to Britain for help, treatment and education

yet he had pursued a "fanatical quest". Salem was found guilty of conspiring with others to cause explosions.

Ali Musbah, aged 22, a student, of no fixed address, was acquitted on a similar charge. Both pleaded not guilty.

Another Libyan, Abdu Salam, a senior official with the Libyan Government, was deported after he claimed diplomatic immunity.

The six bombs were intended for Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's political opponents living in London, but only two exploded.

Mr David Jeffries, QC, for the prosecution, said that by good fortune and the skill of anti-terrorist officers only two bombs caused damage and injury.

Man cleared of stealing Elton John's watch

A gold dealer was cleared at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of stealing Elton John's £6,000 gold watch after claiming that the pop star had given it to Mr Tommy Williams, a mutual friend.

But moments after Mr Cornelius Culwick had thanked the jury for acquitting him of stealing or handling the watch, he was re-arrested over an unconnected matter.

Mr Culwick, aged 31, of Gloucester Road, Croydon, south London, had told the court he had no reason to doubt that the diamond-studded Cartier watch had been given to Mr Williams by Elton John.

He said that Mr Williams gave him the watch during a lunch date. Mr John had told the court he had not given the watch to anyone.

Verdict on veal calves defended

A decision by magistrates that calves raised for veal at a farm run by a religious order in West Sussex had not been caused unnecessary suffering was defended in the High Court yesterday.

Mr Richard Gibbs, QC, argued that Steyning magistrates had not erred in law and had been entitled to find that alternative systems of animal husbandry were not relevant. Mr Gibbs was representing Gerston Farm, which is run by the Premonstratensian Canons, of Storrington Priory, West Sussex, and their farm manager, Mr Luigi Ruggiero, who was acquitted by the Steyning magistrates last March of causing unnecessary suffering.

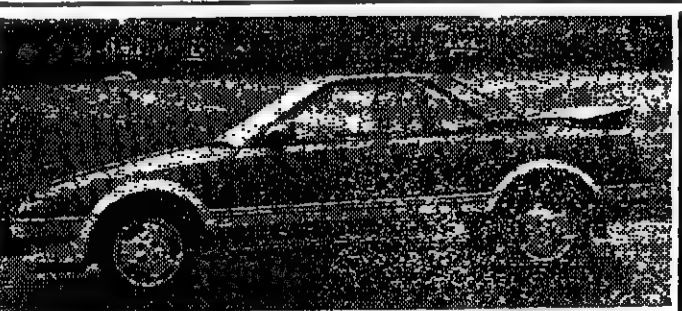
The prosecution was bought by the pressure group Compassion in World Farming. Lord Justice Brown said the court would give judgment at a later date.

Mons Meg home

Mons Meg, the six-ton medieval cannon, was returned to Edinburgh Castle yesterday after scientific examination at the military research base at Fort Halstead, Kent, and the Tower of London. The unique gun was founded in Belgium in 1449.

A newspaper advertisement for Cowan Brothers, of Ardrossan, Strathclyde, was found to be offensive because of its juxtaposition of a model in a bikini and the headline, "Hire A Stripper only £5 a day... Choose from Jill, Ann or Ruby".

Cow Report 119. Advertisement Standards Authority, Brook House, Tarrington Place, London WC1E 7HN. Free.



Toyota's two-seater challenger, the MR2.

Toyota's sports car hope with the Lotus touch

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

The Toyota MR2, a two-seater sports car, goes on sale in Britain today. It has already made a spectacular debut in Japan, where it is being hailed as the country's answer to Porsche.

Its aggressive appearance and mid-engine layout suggest that Toyota leaned heavily during the design stage, on its close involvement with Lotus. It is a shareholder in the British company and will supply engines and gearboxes for a forthcoming Lotus model. Toyota insists, however, that the MR2's engineering is entirely "in-house Toyota".

Powered by the much acclaimed 16-valve 1,587cc engine which dominates British Group A rallying in the Toyota Coupé GT, the MR2 tops 120 mph and accelerates to 60 mph

in 8.1 seconds. The car costs £9,295.

Cockpit room is restricted, with driver and passenger separated by a high central tunnel and console. Luggage space under the bonnet is minimal with most of the room taken up by the spare wheel, jack, toolkit and washer bottle. Initial driving impressions suggest that its handling is one of the best to come out of Japan that it is a strong challenge to well-established sports car manufacturers.

● Honda is recalling 10,000 Honda Accords sold between 1982 and 1983 to replace part of the battery charging circuit which can melt under repeated high electrical load. Honda UK said yesterday that no cases had been reported in this country but there had been a small number in Japan.

A beach too far to advertise as 'near'

By Tony Samstag

A holiday development in Devon advertised timeshare homes in the national Press as set "in stunning scenery with secluded beaches near by" even though the nearest coastline was 17 miles away, according to one of the case histories published by the Advertising Standards Authority yesterday.

The development, owned by Manor Court (Moretonhampstead), of Newton Abbott, Devon, was primarily attractive to golfers, the authority conceded, and "follow-up literature did make clear the distance from the development to the coast".

But in upholding a complaint of misleading advertising, it rejected the arguments of Strathers Advertising and Marketing, of Glasgow, that

"near by" was reasonable because the beaches were in the same holiday area. The advertisers have been asked to amend future advertisements.

The authority received 654 complaints during January, of which 135 were investigated. The case histories published describe investigations on complaints received before January but concluded that month. Sixty-nine were upheld.

Milton Keynes Development Corporation was the subject of a complaint against a poster proclaiming: "Britain's first Academy of Martial Arts opened in Milton Keynes this year" (1984). A man in Hampstead, north London, wrote that he had attended such an academy for three years.

The corporation gave an assurance that the poster would

not be used again and was requested to ensure that future claims were verified.

Seven people complained that national Press advertisements for "Pan Am's new Clipper Class" promising three business cabins, more privacy, six-across instead of eight-across seating, new suitcase bins and "separate courses served on real china" were not borne out.

A newspaper advertisement for Cowan Brothers, of Ardrossan, Strathclyde, was found to be offensive because of its juxtaposition of a model in a bikini and the headline, "Hire A Stripper only £5 a day... Choose from Jill, Ann or Ruby".

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PARLIAMENT MARCH 12 1985

Telephone tapping Bill • Thatcher in Moscow • Drugs list offer

Commentary

Home Secretary explains checks on bugging

SECURITY

Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, told the Commons he had concluded from his own examination of allegations that the security services operated improperly in looking at bugging activity that they carried out no operation, investigation, surveillance or action against any individual otherwise than for the purposes laid down in their directive and with the property of the security services had rightly demanded of them.

He was referring to allegations made in the Channel 4 television film *M15 Official Secrets*, when he posed the second reading of the Interception of Communications Bill.

Mr Brittan said he had also inquired into allegations of unauthorized interception and he was satisfied that members of the security services did not carry out any interceptions without the authority of the Home Secretary.

The Director of Public Prosecutions had asked the Metropolitan Police to look into allegations made in the film suggesting that criminal offences may have been committed. When the police had completed their inquiries they would report to the DPP.

In an intervention, Sir Edward Gardner (Ely, C) complained that in a letter in *The Times* today, Mr Roy Jenkins (Glasgow, Hillhead, SDP) had made a most extraordinary and personal attack on Lord Bridge, who carried out an investigation into authorized telephone tapping. He asked the Home Secretary if he agreed that Lord Bridge had in fact acted with unimpeachable judicial propriety.

Mr Brittan said he did agree and described the attack made by Mr Jenkins on Lord Bridge as "wholly unwarranted". He said that Lord Bridge was entirely natural and appropriate that he should be asked to conduct the inquiry. He regarded it as deplorable that someone with the experience of Lord Bridge should make such a wholly unjustified attack on Lord Bridge.

Mr Brittan said the Government intended to introduce legislation based on the Law Commission proposal in its report on the law of interception in England and Wales for civil remedy against people who obtained information by improper means, including the use of surveillance devices.

These people would be subject to an obligation not to use or disclose that information and if they did so they would be civilly liable to an action for breach of confidence.

This approach had the considerable advantage of concentrating on the real mischief which was the use

to which information obtained by surveillance was put and it provided the victim himself with direct means of redress.

This would offer people an important and wholly new safeguard in an area of legitimate concern. However, it was not part of this Bill.

For the first time, he said, the Government was providing a clear and comprehensive statutory framework for the interception of communications, creating a new criminal offence of unauthorized interception and providing an effective means of redress for those wishing to complain that interception had been improperly authorized.

The ability to communicate was essential to the criminal, the terrorist and the spy. The ability to intercept such communications was an essential tool in the hands of those whose job was to defend society and protect liberties. However, for example, could the police or Customs and Excise piece together information on somebody operating a drug syndicate?

The issue was not whether the use of interception was necessary and legitimate but how it should be limited, regulated and controlled. Lord Bridge had not been confined to establishing that the necessary formalities had been complied with in respect of any warrant issued. He also had to consider the merits of any application to satisfy himself that it could properly be regarded as coming within the established criteria for permitting interception.

If the basis of an application had been subversion, Lord Bridge's task included satisfying himself that interception could be justified on those grounds.

What I cannot, and will not, do (he said) is to comment on individual allegations. But let me reiterate. No member of CND, no members of a trade union - nor for that matter any individual - need fear that the security services will use their own actions and intentions bring him within the strict criteria set out in the Interception of Communications Bill.

Subversion is defined as "activities which threaten the safety or well-being of the state, and which are intended to undermine or overthrow parliamentary democracy by political, industrial or violent means".

Both elements of the definition must be satisfied before an activity can be recognized as subversive. It is not sufficient for the safety or well-being of the state to be threatened. In addition there must be an intention to undermine or overthrow parliamentary democracy. That definition governs the work of both the security services

and the special branches in relation to subversion. It is, therefore, crystal clear that peaceful political campaigning to change the mind of the Government or people generally about political issues cannot constitute subversion.

But that does not mean that the security authorities should be prevented from investigating someone whose activities do threaten the safety or well-being of the state and are intended to undermine or overthrow parliamentary democracy, just because that person happens to be a member of a trade union or of a particular pressure group.

It would be wrong to investigate legitimate organisations as such, but it would be absurd to regard membership of such bodies as providing immunity from investigation for those who would otherwise legitimately be subject to such inquiries.

We do not believe there are any grounds for changing the present system of accountability of the security service to ministers, which has been in existence while successive governments have been in power.

This Bill does not alter that general arrangement. What it does do is deal with the more limited but vitally important issue of authorized interception of communications in public systems.

MPs would like to go further. They wish to see general privacy legislation. The Younger Committee considered this possibility but rejected it. They pointed to the difficulty of formulating sufficiently precise definition of the concept of privacy to form the basis of a legal remedy.

Successful governments have accepted their conclusion that the introduction of a general right of privacy would be likely to introduce uncertainties into the law which could have substantial adverse implications for the free circulation of information but that does not mean that we should not take firm and constructive action where that is possible. And it has been in a wide variety of areas.

It is quite proper for people to be concerned about the use of surveillance or bugging devices. We have responded to that concern. Last December, I published strengthened guidelines to the police on the use of such devices.

The new guidelines tighten up substantially the previous criteria for the use of listening devices and of certain types of visual surveillance. They extend the range of cases in which the chief constable's personal authority is required for the use of a surveillance device; and they rule out any attempt to use a listening device as a means of

circumventing the controls over authorised interception.

Advice would be issued to the police before legislation came into effect how they should proceed if people come forward with information suggesting that an offence may have been committed. Such advice was necessary because the provision was wholly new.

The significance of the offence would also be drawn to the attention of post office and telecommunications officers. There were exceptions to the offence in the case of a person's consent - for example in the case of obscene telephone calls - and where engineers or operators had to undertake what amounted to interception to establish whether a line was functioning.

Outlining the clauses of the Bill, Mr Brittan said the Home Secretary could not issue a warrant for interception unless he considered it was necessary in the interests of

national security, for preventing or detecting serious crime, or for the purpose of safeguarding the economic well-being of the country.

In the last instance a warrant could be issued only in order to obtain information about the acts or intentions of people outside the British Islands.

The clause and schedule dealing with the tribunal was perhaps the most important of the Bill.

The clause gave new powers by providing an independent, powerful and effective means of redress if interception had been improperly authorized.

A tribunal would be established consisting of five senior lawyers. Anybody would be able to apply to the tribunal if he believed that his communications had been intercepted.

It would be the tribunal's first task to determine whether an authorized interception had been directed against the applicant or the place where he lived or worked. The tribunal would not be concerned with cases where there might have

been interception without a warrant. Such interceptions would be a criminal offence to be investigated by the police and prosecuted if there was evidence.

If the tribunal found an interception to have been authorized it would then proceed to determine whether the Home Secretary contravened the purpose of the Act. The tribunal would have access to the same information as was available to the Home Secretary.

If the tribunal concluded there had been a contravention the applicant would be informed. The tribunal could quash the warrant, order the destruction of the material intercepted or order the Home Secretary to pay whatever sum by way of compensation it thought fit.

The tribunal would carry out an impartial and independent review of ministerial decisions in some of the most sensitive areas imaginable in the way no tribunal or court of law had ever done before.

In every case of adverse conclusions the tribunal would have to make a full report to the Prime Minister and make a copy of that report available to the commissioner who would then be able to play a full part in ensuring adequate corrective action was taken.

Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, moved that the House decline to give a second reading to a Bill which gave statutory authority to interception of communications on criteria at once so vague and so sweeping as to permit interception on an unacceptably wide basis and which would be insufficient safeguards for those adversely affected by unlawful interception.

He said there was profound concern about allegations of breaches of civil liberties. This would be deepened by Mr Brittan's speech. Fears had arisen that the security services might be taking their own independent actions which would be most alarming implications for civil liberties and the right to engage in free, non-violent, democratic dissent.

Since the controversy over the television programme there had been further allegations of unauthorized activities by M15. The chief danger of a police state in a democracy was not what was authorized but what was generated from within.

He had no criticism to make of Lord Bridge of Harwich, as he only investigated what he was told. Some said the Prime Minister only ordered the inquiry to prove she had a sense of humour.

What was needed was a full and independent inquiry because only that would look into the serious allegations raised.

The Bill was only a little better than no Bill at all. In some ways it made matters worse than current practice on warrants for tapping. It dealt only with telephone tapping and interception of letters in the post. It was inadequate that today the Post Office had issued a new series of stamps, all showing pictures of bugs. (Laughter.)

Telephone tapping was technologically an almost primitive form of interception. He read an advertisement from *Exchange and Mart* for some devices which had appeared, disturbingly, under the heading "Leisure".

The Bill allowed warrants for addresses or whole organisations, so that the number of warrants issued need only be a fraction of the number of people who were being tapped. In certain circumstances, tapping of communications into or out of the country would not be subject to safeguards.

The criteria for issuing warrants were so vague as to give the Home Secretary a free hand. In the Bill the Government had brushed aside its own 1984 paper of 1984. The Opposition would move amendments to introduce Lord Whitlaw's principles from that white paper into the Bill which would otherwise be halcyon as a tapper's charter.

The Bill allowed all warrants to be issued for six months and to be renewed for a similar period, compared with shorter periods at present in some cases, so how could the Home Secretary claim that it was neither the purpose nor scope of the Bill to widen current practice?

The tribunal could only operate if a warrant had been issued against the person complained of. It was therefore, in effect, a possibility of unauthorized interception.

Mr Brittan: I made clear that it is to consider, among other things, whether or not the criteria set out in Clause 2 (defining the grounds for issue of warrants) have been met.

Mr Kaufman: I am glad for that clear and categorical assurance. The drawback of the appointment of a commissioner was that he would be appointed by the Prime Minister and reporting to her.

The House must seize the opportunity to start the process of making the security services accountable to Parliament. The committee should be appointed by the House and report to a select committee of the House. He should be a servant of the house and not a functionary of government.

If M15 wasted so much time on people like the Joan Ruddock, no wonder it was unable to spot for so long a Betanin in its own ranks. Enormous time and effort was being taken away from dealing with the country's real enemies.

PM expects Star Wars talks while in Moscow

DISARMAMENT

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, was accused in the Commons of toadying along behind the Americans and urged by Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Opposition, to be critical of the American Star Wars project when she went later today to attend the funeral in Moscow of President Chernenko.

The questions were opened by Mr Kenneth Williams (Hastings and Rye, C) who asked the Prime Minister to convey to the Soviet people the strong feelings that in sadness at the death of their leader British people also had high hopes that Mr Gorbachev, the new Russian leader, there was a man who, on his visit to Britain, had opened the doors of peace and friendship through which it was hoped the British people would meet the hopes of the people of the world that they could live in peace together.

Mrs Thatcher said that would be the wish of everyone as she went to Moscow. And I hope (she continued) that we may take heart from the fact that the negotiations due to start in Geneva have begun. We all wish them to end in a successful agreement.

Mr Kinnock: I agree with every word of that. When she meets representatives of our western allies in Moscow will she take the opportunity to discuss the Star Wars initiative with them?

Mrs Thatcher: That would be expected.

Mr Kinnock: Will she be reflecting to them the view expressed today by her predecessor (Mr Edward Heath) that Star Wars would be decoupling, destabilising and a diversion of resources? And I hope (she continued) that we may take heart from the fact that the negotiations due to start in Geneva have begun. We all wish them to end in a successful agreement.

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Geoffrey Smith

Nobody remembers a Budget speech. The rhetorical quality of the Chancellor's remarks passes unnoticed. All we want to know is whether he is going to put our taxes up or down.

I have always believed that now that this is one of the laws of politics. But this time it will be different. When Mr Nigel Lawson gets to his feet next Tuesday afternoon his task will be as much political as economic.

A year ago he rose brilliantly to the challenge of his first Budget. His first few months as Chancellor had been stumbling and erratic. But he devised a surprisingly imaginative Budget, which he presented with lucidity and panache. Few people expected him to do so well, or so badly since.

In the intervening year he has failed time and again on critical occasions to give a convincing explanation of the Government's economic strategy.

Confidence must be restored

That makes his second Budget more significant even than it would otherwise have been. He not only has to put forward a sensible collection of tax proposals, but also to use the occasion to restore confidence in the Government's economic management. He must sound like a Chancellor who offers hope as well as intellectual purity.

His first Budget would anyway be a difficult act to follow. But his task has been complicated further by five recent developments which have circumscribed his scope for manoeuvre.

How far the fall of the pound against the dollar has reduced the amount of money at the Chancellor's disposal is a matter for argument. One hears a strong preference expressed in the City for caution so as to put no further strain on the exchange rate. The political expectation is more optimistic. It is thought that he should be able to give away somewhere between £1.5 billion and £2 billion, but there are no longer the more extravagant hopes of a few months ago.

Student grants syndrome

The other constraint is unequivocal. It is what might be termed the student grants syndrome. Just as Sir Keith Joseph found himself in political trouble when he threatened to raid middle-class pockets to pay for students in higher education, so Mr Lawson has been given a warning that his supporters will rise in their wrath if he interferes with the tax concessions of pension schemes or broadens the basis of value-added tax to cover certain sensitive areas.

The middle-class pressure groups have again been on the march, and once again they have demonstrated how formidable they can be. Conservative MPs have been receiving more letters than ever; they have been button-holed in their constituencies by their activists; and they have naturally transmitted their alarm to ministers.

One may feel some unease about all this. One may wonder if there may not be dangers for the Conservative Party in becoming too much the mouthpiece for the special interests of the middle classes. One may see a conflict between the rigour of Thatcherite economic doctrine and the compromises that are forced upon Mrs Thatcher's ministers. But there can be no doubt that opinion has been mobilized so effectively as to close certain doors to Mr Lawson.

Expectations of tax reforms reduced

Yet this may not be such an immediate disadvantage. He will have to be doubly ingenious this time if he is to maintain the momentum of a radical, reforming Chancellor without sending his supporters up in smoke. But the expectations have been reduced.

There are now two political requirements that he will need to satisfy. One is to respond to the demand for a Budget for jobs. Most Conservative MPs are looking for selective changes in national insurance contributions and at the bottom of the tax scale to encourage employers to take on more young people and to make more jobs worth taking for the unemployed. But the details are less important than the general sense of purpose.

What matters above all is for Mr Lawson to present his decisions in the framework of a credible strategy. It is not enough for him to know what he is doing. He needs to justify, to explain and to interpret so that the rest of us understand as well. Unless he can do so, he will make it hard for the Government to stick to a coherent approach for very long.

Protest at remarks

Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Civil Liberties Council, was called a clown by Mr Sydney Blidwell (Ealing, Southall, Labour) during Commons questions. He asked Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, if her attention had been drawn to protests in the House at "outrageous remarks" by Mr MacGregor.

Did she think he was really up to the job when he was capable of saying, according to *The Sunday Telegraph*: "They are encouraging the members in insubordination and insubordination, boy, are we going to make it stick."

What kind of clown (Mr Blidwell asked) have we got in this job these days? Will the Prime Minister consider sacking him to help to promote peace in the House? Mrs Thatcher: I have every confidence in the chairman.

Cost to be revealed

COAL DISPUTE

A complete update on the cost of the miners' strike is likely to be given by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his Budget speech, the Earl of Aves, Under Secretary of State for the Environment, said during questions in the House of Lords.

Lord Stoddart of Swinton (Lab) opened the exchanges by asking what were the additional costs so far to the Central Electricity Generating Board of burning oil instead of coal during the strike and how the cost should be financed.

The Earl of Aves: Now that the strike is over the Government will be considering with the industry the costs they have incurred but it is too early to indicate what these are likely to amount to. No decisions have yet been taken

on how these additional costs will be financed.

Lord Stoddart of Swinton: Is it possible to confirm Press reports that up to January 1985 the additional cost of oil burning was £1.800 million? Does he agree that the whole nation would bear cost of extra oil burn and not the industry and electricity consumers?

Lord Aves: I have his assurance that any attempt by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to swing the burden on to the electricity consumers will be firmly resisted by himself and the Board of State for Energy (Mr Peter Walker).

The Earl of Aves: cannot confirm the accuracy of any such figures. I suggest he waits until the CEBG annual accounts are published. What matters to the Government is the total effect of the strike on public sector cash flow.

Museum to be established

SCOTLAND

A new clause to the National Heritage (Scotland) Bill, allowing for the establishment of a Museum of Scotland, was accepted by the Government during the report stage of the Bill in the House of Lords.

The Earl of Perth (Ind) who moved the new clause, said it was an exciting moment for all who had supported the idea. By appearing in the Bill it would provide a signpost for the Board of Trustees and it was to be hoped the move in that direction would be made quickly.

The new clause would allow the Museum of Scotland to include any or all of the objects presently in the collections of the Royal Scottish Museum or the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland. The idea, he said, would be along

the lines of the Smithsonian Museum in America where individual museums functioned under their own names but came under the overall umbrella of the Smithsonian which gave guidance and help.

The third reading stage the proposal could be examined in detail when the question of a building would need discussion. Lord Gray of Combs, Minister of State, Scottish Office, said when the new Board of Trustees was set up as part of the Bill they would have to decide how to organize the museums in their care.

They would decide that it would be appropriate to take aspects of the existing museums, or indeed all of the objects presently in the Museum of Scotland. The Bill provided the powers for the board to do that and there was no strict requirement for the new clause to achieve that effect.

More doctors and dentists

in NHS

The number of doctors in the National Health Service had increased by 9 per cent in the past five years and the number of dentists by 12 per cent, Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, said during Commons questions.

In 1979 there were 61,600 doctors and 15,300 dentists; there were now 67,300 doctors and 17,300 dentists, he said.

Mr David Knox (Staffordshire, Moorlands, C) said the figures provided further evidence of the improvement in the NHS since the Government came into office and made nonsense of the remarks by the Opposition about cuts in the service. Mr Fowler replied: I entirely agree.

Chair rules on report in The Times

PRIVILEGE

The Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) ruled in the Commons that if a motion was tabled on a Report in *The Times* about a draft select committee report on Special Forces, it would stand as a first business in the House tomorrow (Wednesday).

The Speaker said: I have received a complaint from Sir Edward Gardner (Ely, C), chairman of the Home Affairs Select Committee, about a report in *The Times* on March 6 which purports to give an account of a draft report which has been circulated to members and staff of that committee and was strictly limited to them.

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Fowler door open for BMA approach

DRUGS LIST

Mr Norman Fowler, the Secretary of State for Social Services, said he regretted the British Medical Association's refusal to talk about the revised limited list of medicines and hoped they would come and see him as quickly as possible after Monday's Commons debate.

He would be prepared, he stated, to discuss with the profession any proposals they might have for an appeals mechanism.

He said the Government had received 123 letters commenting on the selected list which was announced on February 21: 95 of them from doctors or patients and 11 about a mechanism which would enable drugs not available at NHS expense to be prescribed in particular circumstances. Mr Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L) now that the minister has conceded his first attempt at a limited list was unsatisfactory, why is he so self-confident to believe his second attempt is perfect and foresees every possible clinical need?

Mr Fowler: It was the unanimous view of the expert committee that the selected list would meet all clinical requirements. The vast majority of concern has now been met. Nevertheless, if the profession was to propose some appeal mechanism, I am ready to discuss that with them.

Mr Andrew Mackay (East Berwickshire, C): Many of us on this side strongly support his proposals but believe it would be in the interests of the patients if there was an appeal procedure whereby drugs which are later proven not to be on the list but are essential are made available.

Mr Fowler: That is why I have said that my door is open to listen to representations on this. I am sympathetic. If the BMA want to have talks they have to come and discuss it with me.

Mr Roger Sims (Chislehurst, C): What representations has he made to the Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry? Their newspaper campaign has been only misleading but has caused unnecessary concern.

Mr Fowler: The ABPI campaign at times has been disgraceful and hypocritical. Their latest proposal, in which they use the suggestion that old people are going to be affected, goes ill with their suggestion that exemptions should be removed as one of the ways of making money.

He added later: The money which is in the proceeds, will go to health care.

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Opposition to racial monitoring

By Anthony Bevins

A formal policy has been recommended by Lord Scarman in his report, *The Brixton Disorders*, by a Commons select committee, and by the Commission for Racial Equality as a means of combating racial disadvantage. The Government announced a full-scale programme of ethnic monitoring for the Civil Service in January.

But members of Labour's organization committee raised objections when Ms Jo Richardson, MP for Barking, brought up the issue in a report from a positive discrimination working party at a private Commons meeting on Monday night.

The report said the party needed to know the level of black and Asian membership in constituencies to judge representation on executives, councils and other bodies.

Hitch on £500m radar delays build-up of air defence

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

The build-up of Britain's latest air defence fighter is going to be slowed because of delays in the development of its radar, one of the most advanced in the world.

The Tornado F2 will be the backbone of Britain's air defence well into the next century. One of its key features is its radar, which will be able to pick up and track targets at a distance of more than 100 miles without the enemy being aware that it has been located.

Development of the radar, by GEC Avionics, began in 1976 and on the original timetable should have been completed by 1981. But that proved optimistic and the development phase is only now being completed. Development costs are understood to have been about 50 per cent higher than expected.

The total cost of the development and production of the 200 radars on order is put at more than £500 million.

Because the development and manufacture of the radars has been running behind the production of the aircraft in which it is to be housed, the build-up of the full force of 162 F2 Tornados has had to be rephased.

The F2 is still expected to enter service on schedule towards the end of next year, but the radar on the early aircraft will subsequently have to be modified, and the introduction of later squadrons will be slowed down to allow time for modifications in the radar to be incorporated.

Growing pains of an economic giant

Twenty-one years of military rule in South America's largest country come to an end on Friday, when Senhor Tancredo Neves takes over as President from General Jôã Figueiredo. In the first of two articles, Patrick Knight in São Paulo describes the frenetic pace of economic change during the past two decades.

The Brazilian military, have been in power longer than almost any in Latin America. But although there was a phase of violent repression - involving the deaths of at least 100 political militants, the torture,



imprisonment and exile of thousands more, censorship and interference with the arts and sciences - the period has not been as traumatic an interlude as in Argentina or Chile.

Senhor Neves inherits a totally different country from the one the military took over in 1964, although, ironically, many of the factors that provoked the military intervention - soaring inflation and

corruption - are back with even greater intensity than 21 years ago.

The military were encouraged to take over in 1964 by conservative forces which feared that President Jôã Goulart was about to go communist.

The continent, as well as the United States, was terrified of a repeat of the Cuban affair. But Senhor Goulart was basically trying to incorporate new forces, amongst them organized labour, into the very narrow Brazilian political system.

Although the military were called in to prevent radical change, the past 21 years have seen Brazil change from being an overwhelmingly rural to a predominantly urban country, with industry now far more important than farming.

In the past two decades, Brazil has been transformed from a reliance on exporting coffee, cocoa and sugar, to becoming the world's eighth largest economy, able to make all but the most sophisticated industrial goods. It now earns more from the export of manufactured goods, including cars, arms and consumer durables, than from its growing range of commodities and processed foods.

To effect the change, the alliance of soldiers and technocrats decided that a strong internal market must be created, involving deliberate concentration of wealth. The policy of holding down workers' wages, while rewarding a fast growing middle class with



Big three: Neves (top), Goulart (left) and Figueiredo.

salaries the envy of its equivalent anywhere in the world, produced strong demand for the new industries. But it involved widening the gap between rich and poor.

The first 15 years of military rule did not, as is often claimed, involve a reduction in anybody's income. Such was the rate of growth that everybody benefited. Because of this, the Brazil of the early 1970s was a self-confident place, with new

frontiers being opened up all over.

The pace was frenetic, and virtually all Brazilians, rich and poor alike, had great faith in the future of their country. The warnings of critics could be laughed off as scare-mongering, or labelled as communist subversion, and stamped on. However, the 1973 oil crisis was to reveal an Achilles heel in the Brazilian model of development.

Brazil was able to pay for its boom by massive foreign borrowing. But the alarming rise in the cost of fuel revealed the country's fundamental weakness as an energy importer.

The governments of the time, carried away by the prospect of making Brazil a world power commensurate with its size by the end of the century, rushed to start a series of massive heavy industrial projects.

This increased Brazil's need for loans far faster than its export earnings grew. While the first oil shock was weathered safely, the second demonstrated that the faster Brazil grew, the greater the need for imported energy. Bankers started to worry, and the flow of capital slowed.

It was at this point that the military suddenly realized how fragile their political support was. They had depended for their legitimacy not on ideology, but on the ability to deliver economic prosperity. Once that ended, there was little left, and pressures began to build.

Tomorrow: The inheritance

Portuguese employers appeal to Strasbourg

From Richard Wigg, Lisbon

Portugal's Confederation of Industry is to challenge the Portuguese State before the European Human Rights Commission in Strasbourg over the continued non-payment of compensation for the wave of nationalization by the left-wing Government after the 1974 revolution.

Senhor Pedro Ferraz da Costa, president of CIP, claimed here on Monday that some half a million Portuguese who formerly owned, or had shares in nationalized business had been denied their rights and equal treatment under the Council of Europe's Human Rights convention, which Portugal signed.

This was because they had either not received any compensation or had been discriminated against in the payments received.

The CIP has decided to mark the tenth anniversary of the nationalization by taking up what has become something of a lost cause for Portuguese governments burdened by more acute demands on budgets often in deficit.

The employers' president said the revolutionary government in 1975, when it put through nationalization affecting banks, insurance companies, manufacturing industry and transport, promised to establish fair compensation within 90 days.

Mentally ill spared from cuts

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

At least 1,500 hospital beds and almost 5,000 health service jobs are to be cut in the North-West Thames health authority during the next decade as services are switched from acute care to improving services for the mentally ill, handicapped and elderly, and to meet a £29 million reduction in the region's budget by 1994.

That will result in the closure or change of use of a number of smaller hospitals and two or three large ones in an attempt to provide services more cost effective.

In all, some £74 million is to be saved from existing services to the 3.5 million people living in north-west London, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

About £24 million will come from a 7 per cent cut in cases treated as the population falls. Fewer patients will be treated by hospital admission but day cases will rise by more than a third.

Another £25 million will be saved by reducing the cost of treating each patient which at present is 17 per cent above the national average. A further £22 million in savings will come from closures and reductions in the region's psychiatric hospitals.

That money will be transferred to provide community care for the mentally ill with extra jobs being created in the community services. Spending on priority groups as a whole, the mentally ill, handicapped and elderly, will rise by £18 million during the period.

The region claims acute services will improve rather than suffer by concentrating on fewer hospitals and investing in improved hospital services in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

Health service unions in the region said they feared the spending cuts could only mean a deterioration in the services to patients.

Nurses say NHS food inadequate

A survey by Nursing Times

has found that 89 per cent of nurses felt that National Health Service food was either bad or only adequate, while 47 per cent said that a lot of food was wasted on hospital wards (Nicholas Rothwell writes).

A report on the survey said that a large majority of nurses doubt hospital food reflects established nutrition standards.

The magazine has launched a "Care about Food" campaign. Its aim is to provide nutritional information for nurses, who have an important role as health educators.

Money bureau complaint

An article describing what

American tourists would get for dollars in London banks and bureaux de change was weighed against one bureau, the Press Council said in an adjudication published yesterday. The council upheld a complaint by Chequepoint against The Standard, the London evening newspaper.

A reporter changed 20 dollars at a bank and four bureaux and compared the results. He said commission charges were visible only as small typed notices on the windows of three bureaux. Chequepoint was is-

Solicitor in jail agrees to interview

A solicitor serving a jail

sentence of three years for "looting" his firm's client account of nearly £250,000 has agreed to be interviewed in prison, the High Court was told in London yesterday.

Lipkin Gorman, the Mayfair solicitors, want Norman Barry Cass, aged 36, of Hendon, London, formerly a junior partner in the firm, to tell them where the money is. Mr Thomas Putnam, for Lipkin Gorman, told Mr Justice Nicholls yesterday that Mr Cass had failed to comply with a High Court order two weeks ago requiring him to give information about the funds, but was now prepared to be interviewed.

The judge continued an injunction restraining Mr Cass from drawing money from any of his accounts and directed that his passport, which was seized by the Sheriff of Suffolk should be handed over to the custody of the High Court.

Mr Putnam said Mr Cass was expected to be paroled in June.

Bankrupt writer given discharge

Mrs Margaret Thatcher's former

speech writer, the political author Patrick Cosgrave, aged 43, was given a discharge from his £18,700 bankruptcy yesterday. Mr Cosgrave's assets realised £1,450.

Mr Registrar Scott granted the discharge subject to a payment of £3,500 over the next three years. He noted that Mr Cosgrave, of Fulham, London, had already paid £13,050 since the bankruptcy.

GP suspended for indecency

Dr Wladyslaw Mozdzierz,

aged 74, was suspended for six months yesterday by a General Medical Council disciplinary committee for indecently examining a patient aged 18 who was having menstrual difficulties.

Dr Mozdzierz, from Bessacarr, Doncaster, who received a Polish decoration for bravery in the Second World War, denied the allegations.

Ex-Welsh cap and wife dead

Mr Walter Williams who

played rugby for Wales twice in 1974, was found dead with shotgun wounds and his wife stabbed to death at their farm house at Clyne Farm, near Neath, West Glamorgan. Murder squad detectives said yesterday although they were treating the death of Mrs Williams as murder they were not looking for anyone else.

CITROËN BX. WE GO FURTHER

It is a system which has been proven yet improved and the ride quality of the TRS is second to none. Less roll than a Rolls and less dip and dive than most out-and-out sports cars.

What Car... "with its taut handling, responsive feel on the road and its leech-like roadholding the BX can now count among its assets a transmission that is quicker than most to react to the driver's commands."

Cranleigh Times... "The BX includes a new development of Citroën's unique suspension system, appealing to drivers who want a firmer handling and ride while maintaining the standard of comfort. This hydropneumatic system gives a better ride while being unaffected by loads in the car, handling consistently whatever the payload."

Hampshire Chronicle... "Most road tests are limited to a weekend and a few hundred miles. But the BX underwent far more lengthy examination—a fortnight and some 1,500 miles, much of it rugged mountain terrain in Wales. To say it came through with flying colours would almost be an understatement. Road holding in the front-wheel-drive BX is very good."

Motor... "My deep admiration for the car's taut, responsive handling, fast cruising ability, splendid ride at speed, its incredibly efficient packaging and crisply defined good looks remain untarnished."

Freddie Feest, Worthing Gazette & Herald... "Citroën have always held the road like the proverbial glue and the new BX GT has what can be described as 'crisp' handling—achieved by combining the uniquely comfortable self-levelling suspension with responsive power steering."

ONLY A CAR WITH GREAT ROADHOLDING WILL AVOID BEING RUN DOWN BY A JOURNALIST.

St. Malo showed it in its happiest mode, battling along briskly over often poorly surfaced and undulating roads to which the occupants remained oblivious—ride at speed is excellent and directional stability outstanding."

David Taylor, Punch... "The BX can deliver a blissfully smooth and bump-free ride without sacrificing grip."

Aor cornering bite."

Sporting Cars... "Citroën's BX has a simpler suspension than the classic system of old, but it is still blessed with ride and handling far ahead of its rivals."

Robert Glenton, Sunday Express... "Fast, merry acceleration and good roadholding. Now the TRS sits down as neatly as a bee on a buttercup. And it rounds fast bends with a sleek new elegance. The ride itself is as smooth, if not smoother, than any car in its class."

Jean Elgie, Woman's Own... "The Roadholding is great and the car stood up well to the buffeting from cross-winds."

John Taylor, Country Life... "The ride is excellent and the handling predictable, without much roll."

Chester Chronicle... "The point of a Citroën is always outstanding comfort and behaviour and the BX maintains the tradition."

Andover Advertiser... "The model I drove, a popular BX, is a more aerodynamic performer than most. At 100 mph, the road is normal. At 120 mph, it gives a truly superlative ride."



Sorrow for a dead leader: left, President Chernenko's widow, Anna Dmitrievna mourns in front of the tier, Mr Gorbachov, stands between Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the Prime Minister and an honour guard.

Gorbachov faces long battle to push through new ideas

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov was elected Soviet Communist Party leader by the emergency Central Committee session on Monday because he had already manoeuvred behind the scenes to gain the support of key party leaders, and because he enjoyed the backing of the KGB and of economic administrators, according to informed sources.

But he now faces a difficult and perhaps prolonged struggle to push through his reformist ideas in the face of entrenched opposition from old guard bureaucrats.

Sources said Mr Gorbachov, who under the late President Andropov, masterminded the purge of regional party secretaries and the Central Committee secretariat, would now begin to move his own team into place, with a view to shaping the election of a new Central Committee at the next party congress, now expected in the autumn.

They said the Central Committee, which convened in the 24 hours between the death of President Chernenko on Sunday and the installation of his successor on Monday had been presented with a *fait accompli*. It was significant that Mr Gorbachov had been put forward by Mr Andrei Gromyko, the 75-year-old Foreign Minister and senior Politburo member.

"It is not just a matter of the old generation versus the new generation," one observer said. "Some of the hard line conservatives come from the new guard, and some of the old guard have long advocated generational change in the Kremlin in order to get Russia moving again."

It is nonetheless the gradual advent into the leadership of men in their fifties and sixties, rather than seventies and eighties, which has swung events in Mr Gorbachov's favour. It is striking that the 300-man Central Committee is substantially the same body which elected Andropov and Chernenko and which consolidated its power at the last party congress.

congress under Brezhnev in 1981. But many Central Committee members and many ageing provincial and regional party secretaries know that the generation shift is inevitable.

Of the Politburo itself, now reduced to 10 full members, four - Mr Gorbachov himself, Mr Grigori Romanov, Mr Vitaly Vorotnikov, and Mr Gennadiy Yavlinskiy - are from the younger generation, and all were promoted by the innovative Andropov during his brief period of office.

The young men that Andropov groomed are now reaching the top. Of the remaining six, Mr Vladimir Shcherbitsky of Ukraine, aged 67, Mr Dinmukhamed Kunayev of Kazakhstan, aged 73, and Mr Mikhail Solomentsev, aged 72, the head of the party control commission, are conservative hangovers from the Brezhnev era.

So is Mr Viktor Grishin, aged 70, the lacklustre Moscow city party chief, only recently tipped as the old guard's candidate to succeed Chernenko. But both Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the 79-year-old Prime Minister, and Mr Gromyko appeared during Chernenko's absences.

Hints in the past year that high level enemies are still active

Mr Gorbachov occasionally slipped politically during the past year, suggesting that he has high-level enemies who are still active. His speech at the February emergency plenum last year, which elected Mr Chernenko was not published, and in the autumn of last year he equally mysteriously failed to attend a number of key leadership meetings, at one point appearing lower down in the Politburo line-up in *Pravda* photographs than Mr Romanov.

One marked difference with previous succession crises has been that the new Defence Minister, Marshal Sokolov, is

not a Politburo member. The views of the armed forces and the KGB carry great weight politically, and the lack of an Army voice at the top may have counted against Mr Romanov, who is 62 and who has strong links with the military.

The KGB, headed by Mr Viktor Chebrikov, favoured Mr Gorbachov, possibly because of his links with Andropov, who was head of the KGB for many years. Observers suggest that Mr Chebrikov could be rewarded with promotion from candidate to full Politburo member at the next Central Committee plenum, which may be held next month.

Mr Gorbachov is expected to make other early Politburo changes to bolster his position, especially since the leadership remained static under Chernenko.

Other candidate members who may be promoted include Mr Vladimir Dolgikh, aged 60, a managerial technocrat, and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the 57-year-old Georgian party leader, whose experience with economic experiments in Georgia could be valuable to Mr Gorbachov. Other Gorbachov aides to watch are Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov and Mr Yegor Ligachev, Central Committee secretaries for the economy and personnel.

Mr Gorbachov is not a liberal in the Western sense, and is likely to move with caution. His successful trip to Britain last December, in which he came across as relaxed and sophisticated, has perhaps conveyed a distorted image of him, since in Soviet eyes it does not pay to appear to be liberal minded.

"The fact that he admired the stained glass at Westminster Abbey, or that his wife speaks a little English and dresses elegantly, does not mean that Gorbachov is about to bring Russia closer to the West," one diplomat said. Others said there was a danger of building the same myths around Mr Gorbachov as around his mentor Mr Andropov, who was said to like jazz, modern art and Johnny Walker whisky.

Mr Gorbachov's first speech as leader, published in *Pravda* yesterday, was low key, but conveyed some of the urgency he feels about getting the Soviet economy moving. He spoke of a decisive turn toward intensive development and the need to reform "the entire management system".

In the short term, this will be Mr Gorbachov's priority, given that he is committed to decentralization, material incentives and even (some reports here say) a degree of market socialism of the kind introduced by Lenin in the 1920s as the New Economic Policy. Since relations with the West are already on a new course, with the Geneva talks already under way, Mr Gorbachov can turn his attention to Andropov's truncated reforms.

He may well decide that to do this he needs his own Prime Minister in place of Mr Tikhonov, who has in any case long wanted to retire. The

Danger of building the same myths that surrounded Andropov

leading candidate is Mr Vorotnikov, aged 59, at present the Russian Federation Premier. His chief rival is probably Gennadiy Yavlinskiy, aged 62, who is already Deputy Prime Minister. Mr Yavlinskiy is an Azerbaijani, and southern ethnic origins are usually thought to be a handicap. But since joining the Politburo in 1982, with responsibility for transport, he has shown shrewdness and tough-minded efficiency as well as charm. He has strong links with the KGB, and was KGB chief in Baku before becoming party leader there in 1969.

He could benefit from the assistance of Mr Romanov, except that Mr Romanov is likely to remain a tough and ruthless rival.

Mr Gorbachov's main problem to be the need to reconcile economic reform and incentives with continued high military spending and Mr Romanov, in association with conservatives from the old guard, is likely to pose as the champion of a hefty defence budget.

Gorbachov's adroit manoeuvring has given him one of the smoothest successions in Soviet history, one Kremlin watcher said. "But he will need cooperation rather than opposition from men like Grigori Romanov if he is to make good use of his power."



President Reagan puts his signature to the condolence book at the Soviet Embassy in Washington

With sympathy and hope

World's leaders on way to funeral

From Mary Lee, Peking

Chinese Vice-Premier Li Peng left for Moscow yesterday to attend the funeral of President Chernenko, after China had expressed "profound condolences to the Soviet people".

The chairman of the National People's Congress, Mr Peng Zhen, said Chernenko had on many occasions expressed his hopes for increased Soviet-Chinese relations. He congratulated Mr Mikhail Gorbachov on his election as party secretary.

In a message to the new leader, the Chinese said: "We took special notice of (Gorbachov's) speech at the plenary session of the CPSU Central Committee to the effect that Soviet-Chinese relations will see a significant improvement. We too cherish the same hope."

The *People's Daily* yesterday gave full coverage of Chernenko's role and describes Mr Gorbachov's background.

The Xinhua news agency said Mr Peng had a cordial meeting with the Soviet Ambassador, Mr I. S. Shcherbakov, at the embassy.

JAKARTA: President Suharto of Indonesia sent a cable of condolence to the Soviet President in which he described Chernenko as a respected and distinguished figure both domestically and internationally (Our Correspondent writes). The Government said the ambassador to Moscow, Mr Mohamad Choesin, would represent Indonesia at Chernenko's funeral as the Foreign Minister was unable to

make the trip from Jakarta on such short notice.

MADRID: Mr Gorbachov, the Politburo's youngest member, offered the prospect of internal reform, several leading Madrid dailies said (Our Correspondent writes).

El Pais said: "It's logical to assume that he represents not only a new generation, but also those sectors of professionals, scientists and technicians who are today subordinated to hierarchies of the apparatus, but it is they who without a doubt can promote a process of modernization."

The monarchist *ABC* said: "One is almost obliged to accept the hypothesis that a process of deep revision is about to begin in the Soviet Union."

BONNI: Chancellor Kohl of West Germany flew to Moscow yesterday for the funeral, taking with him Herr Wolfgang Schäuble, the Cabinet-rank head of the Chancellery, who is responsible for relations with East Germany (Michael Binyon writes).

He was accompanied also by Herr Andreas Meyer-Landrut, the State Secretary in the Foreign Ministry, Herr Peter Boenisch, the government spokesman, and Herr Horst Teltschik, his foreign policy adviser.

Contrary to earlier reports on Monday, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, is not going to Moscow and is continuing his Latin America visit.

Protesters make it a big day in Geneva

From Nicholas Ashford, Geneva

It was a day for talking, but also a day for protesting. As American and Soviet negotiators gathered for the first time at the Soviet Mission, various peace groups held press conferences and protests calling for an immediate halt to the nuclear arms race.

The most spectacular was organized by the Greenpeace movement, three of whose members dangled themselves and a large banner from a 75-foot crane on a building site overlooking the Soviet Mission. The banner stated: "Put words into action. Stop nuclear testing now".

The most dramatic was by a group of women who marched to the Soviet Mission from a makeshift "peace camp" set up outside the Palais de Nations. The women managed to rile the normally placid Swiss police, who eventually carried them off in a police van, an event carefully recorded by dozens of television cameras.

The most effective was a press conference held by representatives from British, American, West German, Dutch and Swiss peace movements.

The group, which included Ms Joan Ruddock and Monsignor Bruce Kent, of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, called on the two super powers to take three immediate steps to halt the arms race.

1. Stop deployment of American Pershing 2 and cruise missiles and Soviet SS20 missiles in Europe;
2. Halt testing and deployment of new long range missiles and warheads;
3. Prevent the militarization of space by halting research, testing and production of "Star Wars" and other space weapons.

The group also proposed a number of independent initiatives, including a halt to all future development and deployment of British and French nuclear weapons, a ban by Belgium and The Netherlands on the deployment of cruise missiles, and the removal of Soviet medium range missiles from Czechoslovakia and East Germany.

Ms Ruddock accused the Reagan administration of "hypocrisy" by participating in the Geneva talks while at the same time going ahead with its "Star Wars" research programme and the deployment of the MX missile.

Monsignor Kent, calling for an immediate nuclear arms freeze said that people who argued that this would leave the Russians in a position of superiority were "merely using the language of the arms race". His Petra Kelly of the German Green Party noted that more than 60 former Nato generals and admirals now supported the peace movement's aims.

After their press conference the peace group leaders, bearing bunches of spring flowers, presented their demands at the Soviet Mission and held a silent prayer vigil. They later called on the American delegation.

Ironically, the aims of the peace movement are broadly the same as the American and Soviet negotiators. They differ only on tactics.

Gunmen end embassy siege

Ottawa (AP) - Three armed men, calling themselves members of the Armenian Revolutionary Army, surrendered to police after bursting into the Turkish Embassy and holding 11 people hostage for more than four hours, police said.

Turkey's Ambassador, Mr Coskun Kirca, was injured and a security guard shot dead in the takeover. The ambassador, taken away afterwards in an ambulance, jumped or was pushed from an embassy window and apparently broke an arm and a leg.

His wife and a daughter were among the hostages and were released unharmed by the gunmen, who entered the embassy blowing off the front door with an explosive.

Major dies in copter crash

Major Richard Balkwill of the Royal Artillery was killed and three others slightly injured when an Army helicopter crashed along Hong Kong's border with China early yesterday. An army spokesman said the Scout helicopter was on a regular patrol searching for illegal immigrants.

One of the injured was the new captain in charge of the Navy in Hong Kong, Captain Christopher Gatto, and the helicopter was taking him on an introductory tour. Also injured were the pilot, Captain Alan Wordie, and the crewman, Corporal Tony Powers.

Connally denies share offences

Detroit (Reuters) - The former US Treasury Secretary, Mr John Connally, was yesterday accused of illegal stock trading by an energy company which is the target of a \$2.2 billion takeover bid with which Mr Connally is associated.

The American Natural Resources Co. charged in the US District Court in New York that Connally profited illegally from trading in ANR shares on the basis of inside information about an unfriendly takeover bid by Coastal Corp. Mr Connally has denied the charges.

Toll of 59 in Philippines

Manila (AP) - Fifty-nine people were killed in clashes between government troops and communist rebels last week, the Manila newspaper *Bulletin* reported.

President Marcos made his first appearance outside the presidential palace in four months yesterday when he went to the airport in Manila to see off his wife, Imelda, who flew to Moscow for the Chernenko funeral.

Lima killings

Lima (AP) - Shining Path guerrillas killed a 25-year-old policewoman and a Civil Guard day labourer in street attacks in Lima. The guerrillas left a note calling the policemen "traitors" and "informers", and police said they had been transferred from a special anti-terrorist unit several months ago.

Pilot blamed

Madrid - The pilot was blamed for the crash of the Niviana jumbo in Madrid on November 27, 1982, in which 181 died and 11 survived, by a parliamentary commission report. The report claimed he failed to observe charts and landing instructions and flew too low.

Shuttle delay

Cape Canaveral, Florida (AP) - It will take a week to 10 days to repair damage done to the space shuttle *Discovery* by a falling 2,500lb work bucket, delaying until mid-April its flight with Senator Jake Garn in the crew, Nasa announced.

Zambia crisis

Lusaka (AFP) - Zambian President Kaunda banned all strikes in essential industries as railway, power supply and postal workers walked off their jobs in the northern town of Kitwe in solidarity with a nationwide stoppage by bank employees.

Sabotage fear

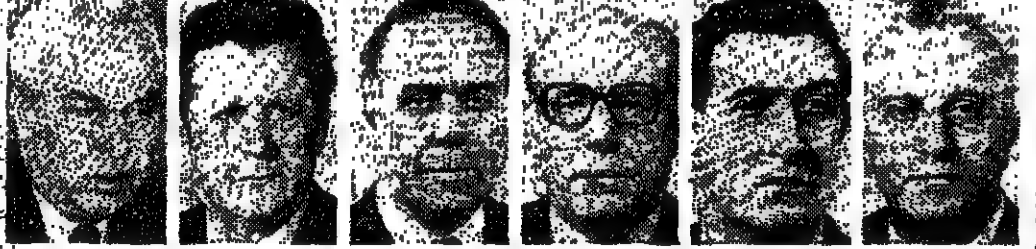
Buenos Aires (AFP) - Foreign objects were found in a jet engine of Italian President Pertini's plane during a sabotage investigation, Mr Argentine Defence Ministry confirmed. Three caps from inner-tire valves of the landing-gear wheels were in the engine's turbine.

Mourners die

Peking (Reuters) - Thirteen people were killed and four others injured when they were crossing a railway track on their way to a funeral.

Suicide suit

New York (AP) - Mr Jay Shafer, aged 34, has filed a \$20 million suit against the estate of a banker's widow who landed on him in a suicide leap from her apartment on the 19th floor. He said Mrs Mildred Walker jumped "without regard for human safety".



Grigori Romanov, Vitaly Vorotnikov, Gennadiy Yavlinskiy, Viktor Chebrikov, Vladimir Dolgikh, Eduard Shevardnadze

Gandhi frees Sikh leaders to restore peace in Punjab

From Our Own Correspondent, Delhi

In an important conciliatory move towards the Sikhs, the Government has during the past two days released the leaders of the Akali Dal - the Immortal Party - who have been in dissension since the military operation against the Golden Temple of Amritsar last June.

The detention orders, under the draconian National Security Act, were revoked forthwith, according to the Home Minister, Mr S. B. Chavan. Those released include the leader of the Sikh agitation for the past two years, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, but significantly did not include Mr Gurcharan Singh Tohra, president of the principal temple management committee (SGPC).

Mr Tohra has long been regarded as more hardline than Sant Longowal, and, as the man in charge of the Golden Temple, has to take some responsibility for the activities of the extremist terrorists there. However, another hardliner, Mr Jagder Singh Talwandi, has been released. He is the leader of a breakaway Akali group, and may have been released to provide counterweight to the Longowal group.

who opposed Mr Tohra for the presidency of the SGPC, Mr Atma Singh. One surprising name missing from those released is the former Chief Minister of Punjab, Mr Prakash Singh Badal. However, though he is considered a moderate, he made some militant speeches after the Golden Temple operations, urging Sikhs to wear black turbans and defy the government, all of which seems to have identified him with the extremist wing.

The Home Minister was hopeful yesterday that political leaders of all parties in the state would contribute to the restoration of normality. But he insisted that the maintenance of law and order would continue to receive priority. "All extremist, anti-national and anti-social activities will be dealt with firmly and deterrent action taken", he said.

As a further measure of promotion against the Sikh secession from abroad, the Government also said that it had decided to legislate for the confiscation of property of non-resident Indians, indulging in sedition, terrorism or anti-national activities. The releases are the first sign of some movement in the impasse in Punjab since the Prime Minister took office. After the December general

election he set up a committee of three of his cabinet heavyweights to consider future action. They were Mr Chavan, Mr P. V. Narasimha Rao, the Defence Minister, who took an active part in previous negotiations with the Akalis, and Mr K. C. Pant, a newcomer to the Cabinet.

In Sant Longowal the government has someone to whom it can talk and who is known not to be an extremist. Hardliners have recently been active and had something of a field day last week when at a meeting in Anandpur, the ad hoc committee managing the party threatened to resume militant action if an ultimatum, expiring on April 12, was not met.

The ultimatum calls for the release of the detainees, the withdrawal of troops from Punjab, the removal of the ban on the students' federation and a judicial inquiry into the anti-Sikh riots which followed the assassination of Mrs Indira Gandhi.

During the meeting young militants captured the platform, and slogans in favour of the independent Sikh state of Khalistan were shouted. The Prime Minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has named a new governor for Punjab, Mr Arjun Singh, the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh. He succeeds Mr K. T. Satarawala.

Lange will ban Soviet icebreakers

Wellington, (Reuters) - Mr David Lange, New Zealand's Prime Minister told Parliament yesterday that Soviet nuclear-powered icebreakers would be refused entry to his country's ports under his nuclear-free policy.

But Mr Lange told Mr Jim McLay, leader of the conservative opposition National Party, that the icebreakers would not be prevented from entering the Ross Dependency, New Zealand's Antarctic claim.

Territorial claims in the Antarctic are not recognized by either the United States or the Soviet Union, but the ice-bound continent is internationally regarded as a demilitarized and nuclear-free zone.

Soviet and US icebreakers regularly visit New Zealand on their way to the Antarctic.

Star Wars will divert resources, Heath says

By Julian Haviland

The Reagan Administration's Strategic Defence Initiative known as "Star Wars", would be "decoupling, destabilising and a diversion of resources", Mr Edward Heath said yesterday. It would delude the United States into a false security and encourage neo-isolationism, he added.

In the unlikely event of it working, and the Soviet Union developing a similar system, it would no longer be possible to rely on nuclear weapons to compensate for conventional inferiority; the independent British and French deterrents would be at risk.

The former Conservative Prime Minister displayed his scepticism in a lecture to the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London.

"Star Wars" will not free the world from nuclear weapons," he said. "If you think there is an arms race, you ain't seen nothing yet."

Mr Heath argued for a fresh impetus to be given to European collaboration and integration in defence and foreign policy, to balance the present asymmetrical transatlantic alliance and to distribute the burden of defence more evenly.

Europeans should develop the capability to act independently. In Europe public opinion would prefer a credible conventional defence to the present level of dependence on the nuclear deterrent, Mr Heath said, but it was hard to see the Europeans finding the necessary resources without collaboration.

Chalfont chairs right-wing look into the future

By Robin Young

Lord Chalfont, the former Minister for Disarmament, yesterday announced plans for a three-day international conference on the confrontation between communism and liberal democracy which he is to chair in London this month.

Conceived by a New York Republican lawyer and lecturer in politics, Mr Murray Baron, the conference is to be called "Beyond 1984". For security reasons no complete guest list is

to be announced until the conference has assembled at the Royal Garden Hotel next Monday, but Lord Chalfont announced that participants will include Mr Richard Perle, US Assistant Secretary of Defence; Mrs Jean Kirkpatrick, until recently US permanent representative to the United Nations; Mr Elliott Abrams, US Assistant Secretary of State at the Bureau of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs; Mr Benjamin Netanyahu, Israeli ambassador

to the UN and Mr Malcolm Fraser, the former Prime Minister of Australia.

People from 47 countries will be attending the conference, and exiles from 24 Communist controlled countries will be joining in the discussions about the collapse of Marxist-Leninist ideology, and the potential and propensities of Soviet military power.

The conference keynote speech is to be made by Lord

Quinton, President of Trinity College, Oxford, and other major speakers are to be Professor Leszek Kolakowski of All Souls, Oxford; Mr Christopher Donnelly of the Soviet Studies Research Unit at Sandhurst; Mr Brian Crozier, former Director of the Institute for the Study of Conflict; M Jean-Francois Revel, former editor of *L'Express*; Mr Norman Podhoretz, editor-in-chief of *Commentary* magazine; and a columnist of *The Times*, Dr Roger Scruton.

Papandreou asks law professors to approve his constitutional reform

The Socialist Government took pains yesterday to allay fears that its constitutional reforms had totalitarian motives of that the departure of President Karamanlis would signal changes in its foreign policy.

A government spokesman said Mr Andreas Papandreou, the Prime Minister, had asked the professors to constitutional law in all Greek universities, to submit to Parliament by next Monday their opinion on a controversial proposal to sim-

From Mario Modiano, Athens

plify procedures for the amendment of the constitution. Instead of requiring the consent of two successive parliaments and enhanced majorities to amend the non-fundamental provisions of the constitution, this amendment would go through inside the term of one parliament by a three-fifths majority (180 votes out of 300) and would be confirmed by a second vote taken one month later.

The proposal was attacked by

the Opposition because it would enable the ruling party to muster occasional alliances and alter the constitution with the same ease as it amended ordinary legislation. Mr Constantine Mitsotakis, leader of the conservative New Democracy, the leading opposition party, said: "This is only one step away from abolishing democracy."

The proposals are already being considered by a parliamentary select committee whose aim is to curtail the powers of the head of state. These amendments will go into force only after they are sanctioned by the next Parliament.

The Government spokesman also affirmed that there would be no foreign policy changes. "There will be continuity and consistency with our original policy statement," he said.

There has been some concern in Athens and in Brussels because President Karamanlis, who stepped down on Sunday, had been a fervent supporter of Greece's membership of Nato and the EEC. The spokesman added: "We do not intend to withdraw from either."

Similar misgivings were echoed strongly from the European Community.

Turkish leader offers talks with Greece

Ankara (Reuters) - The Turkish Prime Minister, Mr Turgut Ozal, called yesterday for comprehensive negotiations with Athens, but also gave a warning that a "hot situation" would arise if Greece extended its territorial waters.

At a luncheon for Athens-based journalists, he appealed for a Greek-Turkish dialogue on the air, sea and seabed issues over which the two Nato members are deeply divided.

"I propose here and now to the Greek leadership to proceed

to comprehensive negotiations," Mr Ozal said. Talks could be held anywhere at any level, and he was prepared to meet the Greek Prime Minister, Mr Andreas Papandreou.

Asked what would happen if Greece extended its territorial waters from six miles to 12, he replied: "We will not recognize any *faits accomplis*... We will take the necessary actions, and if those actions lead to a hot situation, all right."

Protest to Austria on Reder welcome

By Our Foreign Staff

A protest to Austria against the handling of the welcome for former SS Major Walter Reder, following his release from an Italian jail in January, was teleaxed yesterday to Chancellor Fred Sinowatz. Signatories included Sir Alfred Ayer, Sir Isaiah Berlin, Mr Alfred Brendel and Sir George Solti.

Sent from London by Dr Wolfgang George Fischer, the message said:

"On the anniversary of Hitler's invasion of Austria we wish to express our deep concern about the affair of SS-Sturmbannführer Reder and Defence Secretary Frischenschlager stop World opinion has been inevitably shaken by the inept political handling of the affair by an otherwise democratic Austria stop We hope that in the truly liberal and antitotalitarian tradition of Austria and your own party you will revise the decision of your Government which has so damaged the prestige of Austria stop

H. G. Adler, Lord Beloff, Sir Isaiah Berlin, Chaim Bermant, Alexander Blokh, Alfred Brendel, Lord Briggs, Professor John Chubb, Professor Alexander Goehr, Sir Ernest Gombrich, Barry Humphries, Elaine Landemann, Dr Hans Landemann, Melvin Lasky, Professor Norman Morris, Sir Claus Moser, Professor Peter Profer, Fritz von der Schulenburg, Sir Georg Solti, Professor J. P. Stern, Professor Norman Stone, Lord Weidenfeld.

New Barbados Premier faces tough election

From Jeremy Taylor

Port of Spain, Trinidad

The new Prime Minister of Barbados, Mr Bernard St John, aged 53, has not been the Caribbean's luckiest politician. He is a former leader of the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) and while in opposition, lost his parliamentary seat in an election and stood down in favour of his deputy, Mr Tom Adams.

Mr Adams went on to lead the BLP to election victories in 1976 and 1981 and stood a reasonable chance of a third five-year term when he died on Monday.

Like Mr Adams, Mr St John is a British-trained lawyer. He has been in politics for 26 years and is a former Minister of Trade in Industry. A less charismatic and aggressive figure than Mr Adams, he is faced with asserting his leadership before next year's elections.

The Opposition Democratic Labour Party, of Mr Errol Barrow, a former Prime Minister who led Barbados to independence from Britain in 1966, holds 10 of the 27 seats in Parliament. He has been gaining ground in the last year and a bruising Mr Adams' image as a clever economic manager. Barbados has emerged from a difficult recessionary period in the early 1980s, but high unemployment and swiftly rising prices have eroded the BLP's popularity.

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New York lawyers reveal fate of Italian 'intriguer'

From Peter Nichols

Rome

A meeting due to take place today in New York of the three lawyers defending Signor Francesco Pazienza should reveal how the man allegedly involved in many famous scandals on both sides of the Atlantic will oppose the Italian request for his extradition.

For years Signor Pazienza has been a shadowy figure in the Italian political world but he is now emerging as "an intriguer

of the highest level", in the words of an official following the case here.

The list of events with which his name is connected is as long as it is dramatic: the last days of Signor Roberto Calvi, the Italian banker found dead in June 1982 under Blackfriars bridge; the Masonic scandal of subversion involving the banned P2 Propaganda lodge and the attacks on the former President Carter's brother, known at the time as "Billygate". He allegedly had Mafia

and camorra connections. He certainly did well out of his activities. Aged 39 he has a degree in medicine and an excellent grasp of four or five languages, including Arabic. The order issued here to seize his property revealed him to be the owner of two Rolls-Royces, a Jaguar, several flats in Rome, a luxury yacht, a castle in northern Italy, aeroplanes, helicopters and several finance companies. His work in the world of politics and espionage, according to one of the investi-

gators, "was aimed purely at financial gain". Two American police officers are here to investigate his alleged connections with "Cosa Nostra".

The defence is expected to oppose his extradition on grounds that he is being prosecuted for political reasons.

● BOLOGNA: Twenty-four people have been arrested on charges of committing Mafia-related crimes in central Italy and Naples, police said yesterday (Reuters reports).

Two hands join in gratitude for surgeon's skill



The world's only living artificial heart patients, Bill Schroeder, left, and Murray Haydon, right, meet at Humana Hospital, Audubon, Kentucky.

UN on way to famine relief target

From Alan McGregor

Geneva

Thanks to the "understanding and compassion" of the international community "very considerable progress" has been made towards the goal of \$1.5 billion for famine victims in Africa this year, Mr Bradford Morse, Director of the UN Office for Emergency Operations in Africa, said yesterday.

Summing up the results of the two-day conference, attended by representatives of 125 nations, he declined to quantify this. "It would be premature and reckless to state a figure now", he added. They would first have to examine the pledges given by various countries, so as to determine what was genuinely "new" money and what had previously been committed for UN or bilateral projects.

His caution matched the incredulity of many delegates at the announcement that Italy has earmarked for Africa most of a new \$895 million aid programme over the next 18 months. He obviously felt that many governments, anxious to make a gesture commensurate with the desperate situation in a score of African countries, had overlooked the proviso that the conference's aim was to mobilize resources exclusively for the famine emergency.

Reagan tries again to persuade Congress to arm Contras

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan is planning a fresh assault to persuade Congress to resume military aid to the 14,000 American-backed rebels fighting the Sandinista Government of Nicaragua. He has retreated for the time being from a number of complex ideas to aid the rebels without Congressional approval.

The administration is seriously worried that the main rebel force is steadily falling apart. If that happens a tide of refugees, guerrillas and their families, numbering perhaps 150,000 could sweep into neighbouring Costa Rica to the south or Honduras to the north. Sandinista forces are reported to be preparing for a major campaign to rout the rebels in border territories. Nicaragua now has a number of Russian helicopter gunships similar to those used by the Soviet Union with devastating effect against the rebels in Afghanistan.

Mr Reagan is considering a nationwide television appeal on behalf of the rebels, whom he

has called "our brothers" and the "moral equivalent of the Founding Fathers." They received their last payment from the Central Intelligence Agency nine months ago.

Congress appears resolute that it will not approve a resumption of funds for the "secret war". White House officials estimate that the administration is 50 to 60 votes short of victory in the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives.

Senor Enrique Bermudez, military commander of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), the largest rebel group, said last week that the flow of private money, food, clothing and medicines would falter if Congress refused further aid. "Because the world would see it as a signal that the United States is withdrawing from Nicaragua."

The White House campaign to get the funding reinstated may be held in abeyance until the Congressional battle over

the MX missile becomes more clear. Administration officials say a forceful national campaign will begin on behalf of the rebels after the Easter recess. They acknowledge that the signs still are that Mr Reagan is heading for his first big foreign policy defeat at the hands of Congress.

But on the MX missile the President appears to be making remarkable headway. Congressional opponents of the MX programme could after all be approved, but that the number of missiles the President wants will be reduced. President Reagan is seeking nearly six billion dollars for 21 MX missiles in the 1985 budget and 48 more in 1986.

Congressional opponents say Mr Reagan is gaining ground with his argument that he needs the MX as a bargaining chip at the Geneva arms talks. Test votes will be held perhaps next week, but the substantive votes on financing the MX will come later.

Young foresees more Chinese trade

From David Bonavia

Hong Kong

Britain's relatively poor showing in trade with China over the past few years was an aspect of the overall situation of British exports, but this could

soon be improved, Lord Young said here yesterday. He thought that things were changing and that Britain would be "competitive again".

The British Minister without Portfolio, who led the recent trade delegation to China,

described the visit as most interesting and productive.

The delegation of top British business executives met Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Premier, and Mr Chen Muhua, the Minister for Foreign Trade.

North-south tension in EEC holds up progress

From Ian Murray

Strasbourg

An EEC battle between north and south is growing as a direct result of negotiations for the entry of Spain and Portugal. M Jacques Delors, President of the European Commission, told the European Parliament in Strasbourg yesterday.

M Delors said the negotiations had never been so close to a solution, but he was extremely worried by what he called "the abuse of the diplomacy of links" by member states. In his view, each country was making agreement conditional on an ever-growing package of other problems. This made it impossible to progress.

He considered it essential that next week's meeting of foreign ministers breaks the deadlock and so prevents the whole question being sent through to the European summit for negotiation. It would, he said, be very wrong for the heads of government to be left "wallowing around in fruit and vegetables, swallowing mouthfuls of aspirins".

But his worry was that a tension now existed between the north and south of the Community which was not simply financial but showed the lack of understanding between the different cultures and was leading some countries to turn their backs on the solidarity necessary for EEC dynamism.

As this "diplomacy of links" was at the root of the Community's budgetary problems, he did not intend putting forward any new commission plan to sort out the crisis. This would only confuse things. Ministers would have to negotiate on the basis of what was now on offer.

M Delors promised that by the end of May the Commission would put forward a plan to open up the Community's internal market by 1992. This would be a blueprint for the way in which all the internal frontiers could be removed, to create a real Common Market.

He promised that the European summit at the end of this month would receive a commission plan for helping the growth of technology in the Community.

M Delors was sure that "something must happen" to change the Community's decision-making procedure and to move it forward into wider areas of co-operation.

Bomb defused

Böblingen, West Germany (AP) - US Army experts defused a large homemade bomb outside an officers' club here, West German police reported. An anonymous caller phoned a local clergyman to report the location of the bomb.

Mulroney's first six months

Tories struggle to deliver

From John Best, Ottawa

Next Sunday will be a doubly auspicious occasion for Mr Brian Mulroney, Canada's Prime Minister. It marks the completion of his Conservative Government's first half year in office. It also sees the beginning of a two-day summit between Mr Mulroney and President Reagan in Quebec City.

For Mulroney, the combination is both symbolic and appropriate. Improved relations between Canada and the US has been one of the central themes of his administration, which was inaugurated last September 17 after a stunning Tory election victory over the Liberals.

The Prime Minister's views closer co-operation with the US, starting at the summit level, as the key to fulfilling his principal election promise: to get the sluggish Canadian economy moving again and to provide "jobs, jobs, jobs".

He hopes to create a climate in which the Canadian economy, to put it bluntly, can ride piggy-back to prosperity on the booming American economy.

The Tory Government has already taken steps to loosen controls on forward investments in order to spark that infusion of foreign capital which was scared off by restrictions imposed by the previous Liberal administration.

It has promised to soften Canada's highly controversial national energy programme, regarded by the US as an unfriendly venture which discriminates against American oil companies operating in Canadian frontier lands.

Mr Mulroney's message to

American industrialists is that "Canada is open for business again".

The last half year has been a serene period for the Tory Government. Apart from a couple of minor scandals, one of which resulted in the resignation of Mr Mulroney's Defence Minister, the Government has managed a remarkably smooth transition. At the same time, in spite of a massive Commons majority, it has generally preferred to play it safe rather than strike out boldly in new directions.

So far it is difficult to see what the policy of wooing the Americans has accomplished. The Canadian economy still shows no signs of making a great leap forward. It has to be remembered, however, that winter is a notoriously hard time to get things going in cold Canada.

Unemployment has fallen marginally, on a seasonally adjusted basis, but it is still around 11 per cent.



Mr Mulroney: Seeking special US relationship.

Inflation is down marginally, to 3.7 per cent, but interest rates have been climbing recently, reflecting some weakening of the Canadian dollar, and causing concern that they might abort a business recovery.

Neither have the Tories had much luck fulfilling their campaign promise to cut the huge federal budget deficit, which is expected to go as high as \$35 billion in the fiscal year beginning April 1, higher, probably than in the current year.

Despite several billion dollars' worth of spending cuts, federal expenditures are continuing their inexorable rise, pushing the total to \$105 billion, a jump of 4.7 per cent. Still, it is the smallest percentage increase in the past 17 years.

The problem of the deficit is greatly complicated by the fact that the most tempting targets for expenditure cuts - old age pensions and family allowances - are virtually untouchable for political reasons.

At the same time, the Mulroney Cabinet is extremely reluctant to raise taxes. In foreign affairs, as in business affairs, the accent has been on closer co-operation with the US, especially in continental defence matters. This has now become a burning political issue, with the parliamentary opposition claiming that Mr Mulroney has jeopardized Canadian independence.

Mr Mulroney's blossoming special relationship with Mr Reagan does nothing to still such criticism.

Interest rates on Deposits

In accordance with the provisions of the Finance Act 1984 all banks in the United Kingdom will from 6 April 1985 require to pay Composite Rate Tax on any interest paid on sterling deposits to most personal customers, sole traders and partnerships. Foreign currency deposits will come into the new system from 6 April 1986.

Under the new system, customers affected will receive interest net of tax. The tax, which is called 'Composite Rate Tax' or 'CRT', will be accounted for by the Bank at source and paid direct to the Inland Revenue. Interest earned on Building Society deposits is already

subject to similar arrangements with the Inland Revenue. Banks currently pay interest gross i.e. without tax being deducted.

The level of CRT is set once a year, by the Government, and will be 25.25% for the year commencing 6 April 1985.

The Table below shows how our current interest rates (i.e. as at 11 March 1985) will be affected by the introduction of CRT. Please note that these interest rates are subject to variation and may be changed both before and after 6 April 1985.

| Account | Customers not affected by CRT Gross Rate % per annum | Customers affected by CRT | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | Net Rate % per annum | Gross Equivalent Rate % per annum |
| Prisoners Account. (Repayable on demand. Interest paid quarterly.) | 13.25 | 9.90 | 14.11 |
| Savings Account/Rainbow Savings Account/Cashline Deposit Account. (Repayable on demand. Interest calculated on minimum monthly balance. Interest paid annually.) | | | |
| Balances of £1,000 and over | 11.50 | 8.60 | 12.28 |
| Balances of £500-£999 | 9.25 | 6.91 | 9.88 |
| Balances of less than £500 | 7.75 | 5.79 | 8.28 |
| Investment Account. (Repayable at 30 days.) | | | |
| Interest paid quarterly | 12.50 | 9.34 | 13.35 |
| Interest paid monthly | 12.25 | 9.16 | 13.08 |
| Seven Day Deposit Account. (Repayable at 7 days notice. Interest paid quarterly.) | 11.50 | 8.60 | 12.28 |
| High Interest Deposits. (Terms of 1-7 years. Interest paid quarterly.) | | | |
| 5-7 years | 13.75 | 10.28 | 14.68 |
| 4 years | 13.50 | 10.09 | 14.42 |
| 3 years | 13.25 | 9.90 | 14.15 |
| 2 years | 13.00 | 9.72 | 13.88 |
| 1 year | 12.75 | 9.53 | 13.62 |
| Deposit Receipts. (Repayable on demand. Interest paid when encashed.) | 11.50 | 8.60 | 12.28 |

Notes.

- Corporate Bodies, Charities, many Clubs and Societies, certain Trusts and some other Unincorporated Bodies are excluded from the CRT scheme and will continue to receive interest on a gross basis. Overseas residents are also unaffected provided the Bank holds a declaration stating that the person entitled to the interest is not ordinarily resident in the UK. Declaration forms are available from Royal Bank of Scotland Branches.
- CRT provides a benefit for taxpayers because they are not liable to pay any further tax at the basic rate on the interest received from the Bank. Consequently, because the CRT rate (25.25%) is lower than the basic rate of tax (currently 30%) this means that for every £100 of interest, customers who are basic rate taxpayers will retain £74.75 after tax as opposed to £70 under the present system. Higher rate taxpayers will only have to pay the difference between the higher rate and the basic rate. Under the terms of the legislation, CRT deducted cannot be reclaimed, even by non-taxpayers.
- Although interest on Savings Accounts, Rainbow Savings Accounts and Cashline Deposit Accounts is not due to be credited, in the normal course, until 30 September 1985, customers may request their Branch to credit interest accrued up to and including 31 March 1985 on their accounts on that date. This interest will be paid gross. Customers who are taxpayers may wish to leave interest to accrue as normal until 30 September 1985 when they will receive interest net of CRT.
- Deposit Receipts issued before 6 July 1984 will be excluded from the CRT scheme even if encashed on or after 6 April 1985. Interest on Deposit Receipts is payable on the date the receipt is encashed and in the case of Deposit Receipts subject to CRT, the rate of CRT current at that time will be used to calculate the net amount of interest payable. It should be appreciated that a change in the rate of CRT will result in a change to the net amount of interest paid.

Customers requiring further information about CRT should contact their local Royal Bank of Scotland Branch.

The Royal Bank of Scotland

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THE ARTS

Paul Griffiths investigates the modern popularity of Mahler's music in light of the major concert series 'Mahler, Vienna and the Twentieth Century' which begins at the Barbican tomorrow evening

Irresistible doubts

Why Mahler? Last spring Simon Rattle was conducting the Philharmonia through a tour around Mahler, Strauss and their successors. Six months before that the Edinburgh Festival was celebrating Mahler and his Viennese contemporaries. Now Claudio Abbado turns the London Symphony Orchestra towards 'Mahler, Vienna and the Twentieth Century' in a sequence of concerts that will march through most of the rest of the year. Why?

It is not good enough to say that Mahler is good box-office: one then has to explain why for half a century, between his death in 1911 and his birth centenary in 1960, he was not. Perhaps the deeper reason lies in the closeness of his questions to ours, in the degree to which, like modern literary critics, army control negotiators and bishops, he worries about the murky connections between language and truth.

The music, he once said, is not in the notes. And that might well stand as a key statement of the musical twentieth century to place against Stravinsky's dictum that the art is incapable of expressing anything at all. Both of course were consciously speaking half the truth: nothing can be communicated without a language, and a language cannot be used without communicating something. But while

Stravinsky sought to make artificial languages that might keep communication at bay, Mahler went out of his way to use musical images sticky with references to the real world: military marches, folksong, café music, alpine cowbells. And, just as Stravinsky's avoidance of expression in fact speaks volumes, so Mahler's use of symbols can seem a cool act of construction.

Quite clearly Mahler was aware of this: it is the source of his irony. A military march on the parade ground is hardly more than functional; a military march in a symphony becomes a symbol of organized might. But, if meaning is thereby dependent on context, one must doubt the possibility that any musical thought corresponds unequivocally with some emotional state or whatever. Where irony runs so deep, we cannot be certain anywhere that the author means what he says. There are movements, like the finale of the Ninth Symphony, where Mahler appears to be speaking directly through a language of the emotions such as Deryck Cooke defined. But there are others, such as the first movement of the Fourth, where everything seems to be placed in quotation marks. And the vast bulk of Mahler's music slips tantalizingly from one side to the other.

As long as people thought there were definite answers, Mahler's

doubts could have little appeal, which may in part account for his eclipse, and for his irrelevance, except as a contrast, to composers from Stravinsky to the younger Boulez. The LSO festival is bound to encounter problems, therefore, in connecting Mahler with the twentieth century, problems which are obviously exacerbated by the impossibility of sustaining any coherent view all the way through 21 programmes involving other musicians who will have their own Mahlers and their own twentieth centuries: Abbado shares the conducting with Rattle, Boulez, Bernstein and Colin Davis, and there are soloists of the magnitude of Pollini and Norman.

No doubt there were practical difficulties that explain why, for instance, Alexander Goehr and Harrison Birtwistle are represented but not the far more Mahlerian Peter Maxwell Davies, or why there are three works by the delightfully un-Mahlerian Ligeti. But nobody could be in a mood to complete Mahler's whole of Mahler's output, besides a large part of Berg's and other tracings of Mahler's influence through Webern and Boulez, Schoenberg and Shostakovich, Britten and Berio. Whether one prefers to see Mahler as the supreme symphonic architect or as an autobiographer in tones, there will be ample opportunity to hear.



Gustav Mahler photographed by Lotte Meitner-Gräf

Television

Muddy triumph

In 1926 John Logie Baird advertised in this paper for help in building the first television set. Today some 2,300 million people watch the medium which has made Lucille Ball the most famous person in the world - and producers use *The Times* personal column to find contestants for quiz-shows like *Basman's Holiday*.

Bravely hosted by Julian Pettifer, Granada's tasteless challenge to *Blankety Blank* invites three teams to answer questions on their own jobs, each other's jobs and travel. Last night's clash of Titans involved some cocky doctors, a trio of glum prison-officers and three bedraggled vicars.

The vicars had the worst of it. "It's not going up," said one who was asked to take a pretty girl's temperature. "According to this, she's gone." The doctors won, their prize an invigorating course of treatment in German mud-bath - rather what the producer needed.

I do not know where I would send the producer of *Holiday Talk* (Thames), in which famous people chat about their hot and cold treatment in the Judd, the nipster Nils Blythe and a guest travel-writer. Two weeks ago Denis Healey showed us his snaps and said how lovely Portugal was. Last night Pamela Stephenson flew in from Los Angeles.

Mr Blythe, who has trouble taking his eyes off the presenter, bobbed up to say that, with the

dollar's present level, now was not the best time to go to California. We were next treated to a film of the promised land over which dribbled a commentary extolling the place's "tolerance, generosity and... Dionysian madness". It looked as if Dionysus might have had a hand in putting Pan's costume, giving her the appearance of a psychedelically charlatry. No dollar problems for her.

"Get a chauffeur", was her advice on how to get your bearings in L.A. After surviving a trip through Death Valley and "dangerous things like puff adders which kill you" she had come back loaded with presents. A Gucci bib for daughter Daisy; and for poor Mr Blythe a Groucho Marx jock-strap - about all the support he got.

Television (Granada) continued to pepper its own backside with more shots - hesitate to call it analysis - of television news. There was some devastating footage, for which full credit to the film researchers Avril Warner and Jane Mercer, but the programme suffered the same problems as it discovered in its subject - sensationalism and gibes. The clips were too quick and there was no attempt to investigate the pornographic quality of news and its relentless emphasis on hard-core action devoid of history or postscript.

Nicholas Shakespeare

Dan Wagoner came late to dancing, after taking a degree in pharmacy and serving in the U.S. Army, and he has never been the showy type to make a glamorous reputation. But he has what is more satisfying and can last longer, a gentle but rugged individuality that left its mark on many roles he created as a performer and is now steadily making his choreography more widely admired.

He has his own company in America which, if all goes well, will play in London later this year. His work will be seen anyway in Britain thanks to the piece he has already mounted for Ballet Rambert and another that he is to create next month for Janet Smith and Dancers. I talked to him while he was working with Rambert on *An Occasion for Some Revolutionary Gestures*, which has its London premiere on Monday at Sadler's Wells.

Tall, slim and almost uncannily fit, Wagoner looks a good 10 or 12 years younger than the 52 that reference books give him. Perhaps that owes something to his healthy, active life, but a country upbringing and an unusually innocent, kindly nature must also have played a part. Not that he lacks shrewdness or an enquiring mind. All these qualities - together with an irrepressible sense of humour - show in his dances.

Wagoner was born in Springfield, West Virginia, and grew up there as one of a large family - "Without much money, in a house with no inside toilet. We bathed in an old tub and drew water from a pump in the kitchen. But my mother cooked very well for us, and made her own bread; we were happy and made our own entertainment."

John Percival meets Dan Wagoner (right), whose new work receives its London premiere by Ballet Rambert next week

Energetic gestures



He graduated from West Virginia University intending a career as a pharmaceutical chemist, and began to study dance when stationed in Washington during his military service.

That led him, at 24, to New York and the Martha Graham school. Soon he was in her company, where he stayed four years, a period that included such creations as the comic-virtuoso *Acrobats of God*. One of his fellow-dancers was Paul Taylor and, because the Graham company did not perform continuously, Wagoner was able to take part also in Taylor's early creations, leaving with him when the Paul Taylor company became a permanent operation.

The Taylor company was a hotbed of choreographic as well as dancing talent. Wagoner, Twyla Tharp, Santa Driver and others were all to branch away in time to set up their own companies. Wagoner's has been going now since 1969.

Wagoner's creative style has

little in common with either Graham or Taylor, although it does owe a lot to his own special quality as a dancer, which Taylor once identified as the way his movements are weighted. "It looks as if he were pressing against heavy water rather than air. The effect is quite different from the kind of floating or floating. The spectator is involved in seeing the energy that presses into the floor or lifts out of it."

The most important outside influence on Wagoner's work has been George Montgomery, the quiet anarchist poet with whom he shares a loft home at the unchic end of Broadway. Montgomery sometimes appears as an actor or commentator - at least once also as dancer - in Wagoner's productions. More important, he encourages Wagoner in the gentle nonconformity of his dances.

Working with Rambert, Wagoner found: "Some of the dancers were shocked - well,

not exactly shocked but disconcerted by the things I asked them to do. I had to explain to them that this is as serious to me as an arabesque is to you." The movements are often eccentric, but Wagoner insists, although with a wry smile: "I like to think that all my dances are concerned with the basics: time, space and energy. Very pure!"

He sometimes finds choosing music a problem. "I try to listen to a lot of composers, but most nowadays are only making electronic scores or heavy rock, which means nothing to me except for 'fast' drive and volume." Consequently, he has been known to start a dance in silence and then let George Montgomery suggest music that might go with what he has done, whereupon he starts again in a process of adaptation.

In the case of his work for Rambert, however, the music suggested itself more directly. "I had worked with this pianist, Michael Sahl, and he came on tour with the company and played for us in class. He liked playing 'Yankee Doodle Dandy' and he did it in many different ways. He would say, 'Dad, I'm going to play it like Mozart', or 'I would ask him 'Can you do it like an old Baptist service'."

"One day I suggested that he should collect all these things together and write a set of variations, which he has done. It includes what he calls a Country Shuffle, and it ends with Chopin, which sounds so different that I asked him, are you sure that's 'Yankee Doodle Dandy'? He says, yes, all the elements are there."

"I tried in my dances just to match the music. I set it first for my own company, and that gave me the courage to come here and do it again in a quite short time, trying to respond to the qualities of these dances. Originally it was for only seven dancers, and here I have used 14, the biggest cast I ever worked with - mostly in smaller groups, but there is one dance where they are all together."

"I have called it *An Occasion for Some Revolutionary Gestures*, which I am told is too long for the publicity. But that's what it is really, and anyway I don't like a title that tells people what to expect, because then they see what they think they ought, instead of looking at it for themselves."

● Past and present members of the Royal Shakespeare Company are to stage a special entertainment, *Where There's a Will...* in aid of the Ethiopian Appeal Fund, at the Barbican Theatre on March 17.

Stanford's vain search for character

Much Ado About Nothing

Jeannetta Cochrane

Stanford can still be discovered in B flat within our churches and cathedrals, and there are always seafaring baritones to sing his songs, but opera? Famed for looking over the overlooked, Opera Viva and their conductor Leslie Head have reached unusually far into the barrel even for them in giving us the chance to see Stanford in so unfamiliar a light.

At least, that is potentially what they were doing: I kept looking for Stanford but quite failed to find him; this *Much Ado About Nothing* being so



A likeable Petruchio: Fiona Victory

The Taming of the Shrew

Stratford East

To present an all-woman version of this play might seem a long overdue act of vengeance on British drama's ultimate piece of male chauvinism. But, when it comes to turning a bright idea into detailed reality, it is hard to imagine what a team of ladies can do to dislocate a powerfully single-minded comedy that has continued to fill theatres with enthusiastic spectators, all violently opposed to the viewpoint.

Concert

Academy of London/Stamp

Queen Elizabeth Hall

A welcome guest with the Academy of London on Monday was Gundula Janowitz, whose familiar operatic soprano partook instead of two Bach cantatas, including the captivating "Wedding" Cantata, *Weichet nur*.

Her voice has kept a wonderfully youthful freshness and radiance of tone, making it ideally suited to the lightness of phrase and spirit that sets off the charm of the words, and with a warmth of feeling in the five linked arias that was totally engaging.

In this, she had distinctive support from the beautifully poised oboe playing of Sarah Francis, as merry and beguiling as could be wished, and comparable style from the solo violin of Pauline Lowbury and the flexible continuo cello of Melissa Phelps. The last named made a persuasive case for the cello line in the second aria rather than the bassoon sometimes preferred, and Richard

Stamp's conducting kept the ensemble playing buoyant and dance-like.

For the Cantata No 140, *Wachet auf*, the soprano was joined in the symbolic duets of spiritual yearning by Ralph Kohn, whose baritone sounded uncertain of pitch at the start and somewhat less than persuasive in the consolatory assurance he is supposed to convey. As a passionate duet between Christ and the Soul, it was surprisingly tentative on his part, but the Academy of London Choir benefited from the conductor's moderate choice of tempi and rhythmic concern.

In the Requiem by Fauré that formed the second part, it was a matter for regret that Miss Janowitz had no more to sing than the angelic "Pie Jesu", so serene yet eloquent was the beauty of her vocal line. Again the baritone solo was under-whelming, but it was rewarding to hear the choral passages from an ensemble small in numbers (less than 30 voices) but firm and well-blended, and conducted with sensitivity.

Noël Goodwin

Opera

Stanford's vain search for character

extraordinarily empty of character. The programme suggested we might detect the influences of Gounod, Verdi and Brahms. God help us, but in fact the music took place on so innocuous an harmonic level as to be incapable of showing any particular physiognomy at all.

It failed in its own time, surviving for only two performances at Covent Garden in 1901, and I cannot imagine it will do much better in ours, even though it is guaranteed more playings than that this week. The text was unceremoniously cut for Stanford's purposes by Julian Sturgis, so that one ends up with a Lamb's tale ripe for setting to sentimental music. There are a few songs, notably for the baritone Benedick, in the style of drawing

room ballads, some collectably bathetic melodrama in the last two acts, and a couple of pretty ensembles. Not much more.

Since the opera is so very much a period piece rather than any kind of artistic occasion, the producer, Michael Hunt, was right to give it a period setting, so that Benedick and Claudio became a kind of much-diluted Alcegaon and Ernest. For indeed, to the extent that Stanford makes their personalities at all, he makes them personalities of his own age. It is merely unfortunate that his age would have expected full symphonic support in the pit: Mr Head conducts what sounds like a café orchestra, skating all the time on the edge of parodying the score.

The cast is uneven, but there

are nice performances from some of the young singers involved. Brigitta Angmy as Hero is the image of innocent beauty, with a voice made brightly radiant by her quick vibrato. Patricia Cameron is aptly fruiter as Beatrice. Rodney Gibson conveys presence and authority as Benedick, and Michael Birnbaum is a noble Don Pedro. There is a solid bass Dogberry from Greg Winter, who cannot be blamed for the fact that Stanford's dispassionate score makes nothing of the comedy. Another bass, Nigel Fair, is also very dependable as the cleric, in a scene whose choral music looks, from a shipwrecked piece, towards more familiar Stanfordian shores.

Paul Griffiths

Theatre

This production opens with the sight of two large sheets of paper inscribed with male and female stereotypes, and ends with Katharine addressing her recantation speech to the house with a mad missionary fervour - whereupon she is wrapped in a blanket and led away. But, between these two feminist highspots, what we get is a lukewarm performance of the text which does nothing to alter the usual balance of sympathies: except that Fiona Victory's Petruchio is unusually likeable and obviously means no harm, and that Susan Cox's Shrew emerges as a foot-stomping brat. To put it mildly, the show steers clear of feminist clichés.

However, if the production leaves the characters intact, it succeeds in dislocating every other component of the play. It is the work of Utz (following his *Pericles* at this address), and it offers renewed confirmation that designers make the most tyrannical directors.

His company may have set out to strike a blow against male supremacy, but in joining Utz's team they have submitted to more wilful and arbitrary masculine manipulation than Petruchio ever inflicted on Katharine. Playing mainly in jeans and orange tops, they are treated as a group of malleable artists' properties and have great difficulty in establishing independent identity. Even if you know the play well, it is still far from easy to sort out

Bianca's rival suitors, nor is the plot plain sailing when much of it is delivered as sing-song doggerel.

Of Utz's visual fertility there is never a moment's doubt. Much of the design takes shape under your eyes, as the two sisters line up against a paper screen to be respectively outlined as a devil and an angel with an aerosol spray. For the music lesson, a lute is painted on to another screen before the fickle tutor's head tears through the picture. Lucutio apostrophizes the "modest" Bianca while mooning over a portrait of a headless nude with giant mammary equipment.

And, when Gremio presents his tutor, it is in the dismembered, Magritte-like form of half a dozen boxes painted with different parts of the anatomy. Almost invariably, though, the trouble with these ideas is that they work only on first impact, and then their stage like burnt-out fireworks. Old Baptista (Jean Boht) appears on a scaffolding platform in a sumptuous robe; and then descends to stage level leaving the costume behind, like a piece of window dressing. There it remains irrelevantly until she next ascends the platform, by which time the joke is dead.

Irving Wardle

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Taking the alternative road to health

A group of practitioners representing the major disciplines in alternative medicine - acupuncture, chiropractic, osteopathy, medical herbalism, naturopathy and osteopathy - began meeting two years ago, to discuss how best to set up an umbrella organization. One of their problems was what should be their relationship with the medical profession?

Would they continue to be "alternative", perhaps to the point of rivalry? Or should they be, as Prince Charles and some therapists preferred, "complementary"? Eventually the group opted for both; last week the Council for Complementary and Alternative Medicine was launched, with Lord Home of the Hirsel (whose daughter is an acupuncturist) metaphorically breaking the champagne bottle over its bow.

But can these therapies still be described as alternative to orthodox medicine? To find out, *The Times* and the Koestler Foundation commissioned a survey of general practitioners' attitudes from Taylor Nelson which used a nationally representative sample of 108 GPs.

The main questions asked were designed to elicit how many GPs accepted the value of alternative therapies (or at least some of them) whether they practised any of the therapies themselves; whether they would refer patients to alternative therapists; and so on. The replies indicate, among other things, that a higher proportion of GPs actually practise one or more of the therapies than has been thought; that many GPs refer patients to doctors who use them, or to alternative practitioners; and, still more surprisingly, a far higher proportion received treatment from one or other of the alternatives - 26 per cent of our sample.

To continue to regard the alternatives as alternative, in other words - as the British Medical Association and the medical journals have done - is in effect, to accuse a substantial minority of GPs of a secular form of heresy. And the replies to a question put to GPs who do not practise alternative therapy, "would you like to?" reveal that a majority - 57 per cent - would like to (acupuncture, hypnotherapy and osteopathy are particularly popular choices).

On balance, it is the younger



Paula Younsa

GPs (those qualifying in 1970 and after) who are most interested: a confirmation of research carried out two years ago by David Taylor Reilly, with a group of 100 GP trainees. The results, published in the *British Medical Journal* (30 July, 1983), showed that 18 already used at least one alternative therapy, and no fewer than 70 would like to have training in one or more, 22 either had been treated, or had treated themselves, with an alternative therapy. Those from the North and Scotland were the most sceptical.

Our questionnaire also enquired about satisfaction levels. Of GPs who used, or referred patients to, alternative therapies, more than 50 per cent of those using acupuncture and osteopathy expressed themselves "very or quite satisfied". 18 out of 34 were very or quite satisfied with chiropractic; 21 out of 39 were very or quite satisfied with meditation/relaxation.

What, then, are the implications for the medical profession?

The committee set up by the British Medical Association is still at work. It was announced last week that the BMA is to hold a committee of enquiry. It is the doctors' trade union, and as such can hardly claim to give, or even be expected to give, an impartial verdict. As John Dawson in fact admitted, at the British Association meeting, it was "probable that we will reject the philosophical basis" of alternatives such as reflexology, whose methods of diagnosis do not reveal to the medically trained mind "a rational coherent idea of what's wrong".

The willingness (as shown in our survey) of so many GPs to accept the value of alternative therapies is making any such rejection hard to sustain. But in any case, the main philosophical basis - holism, the desirability of treating the person,

more difficult than they anticipated.

This is not surprising, as a number of them began with preconceptions which some are beginning to modify. For example, they began with a clear preference, among all the alternative therapies, for osteopathy. "It seems likely", Dr John Dawson, a member of the committee, said at the British Association of Science symposium on the subject last autumn, that "osteopathy as a therapy will have to be taken seriously in the report we produce" - the clear implication being that many of the others were unlikely to be so regarded.

One of the findings from our survey is that although such a surprisingly high proportion of GPs are now beginning to take the therapies seriously enough to use them (and to be treated by them) widespread ignorance remains about most of them. Incidentally, although three of the GPs actually practised "healing" - psychic or spiritual, four out of ten GPs appear to have been unaware of its existence. Yet healing is by far the most widely practised of all the alternatives. There are an estimated 7,000 healers in the country - though the exact figure cannot be obtained, because so many do not practise professionally. Fifteen GPs in the sample knew of the Alexander Technique, which along with reflexology, medical radiesthesia and clinical ecology scored lowest in the "awareness" category.

The attitude of the Council for Complementary and Alternative Medicine is that the BMA is the wrong organization to hold a committee of enquiry. It is the doctors' trade union, and as such can hardly claim to give, or even be expected to give, an impartial verdict. As John Dawson in fact admitted, at the British Association meeting, it was "probable that we will reject the philosophical basis" of alternatives such as reflexology, whose methods of diagnosis do not reveal to the medically trained mind "a rational coherent idea of what's wrong".

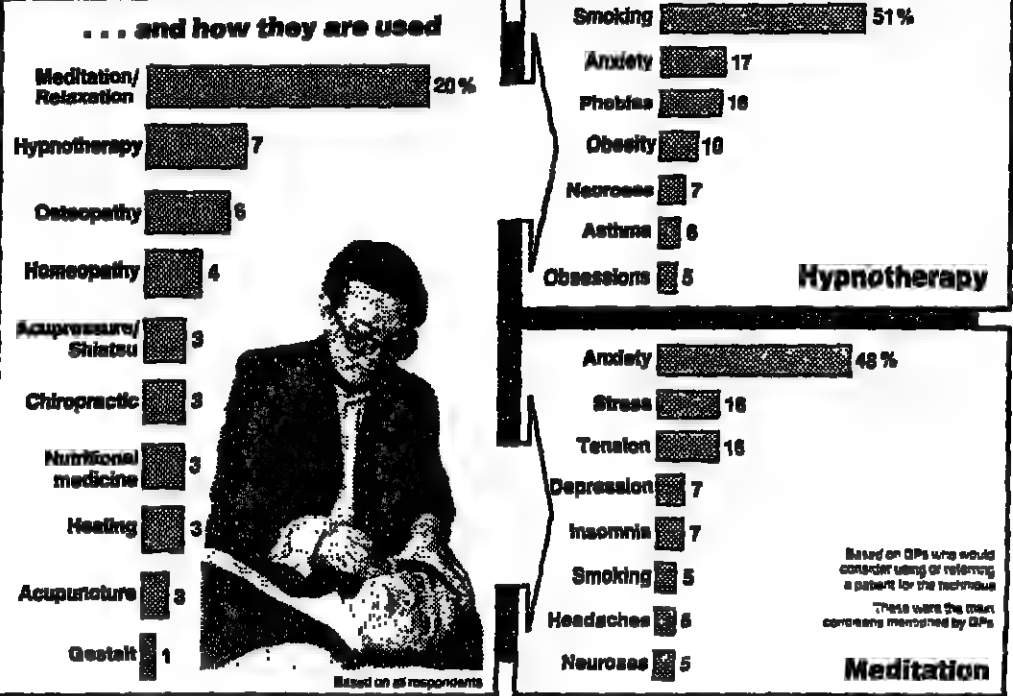
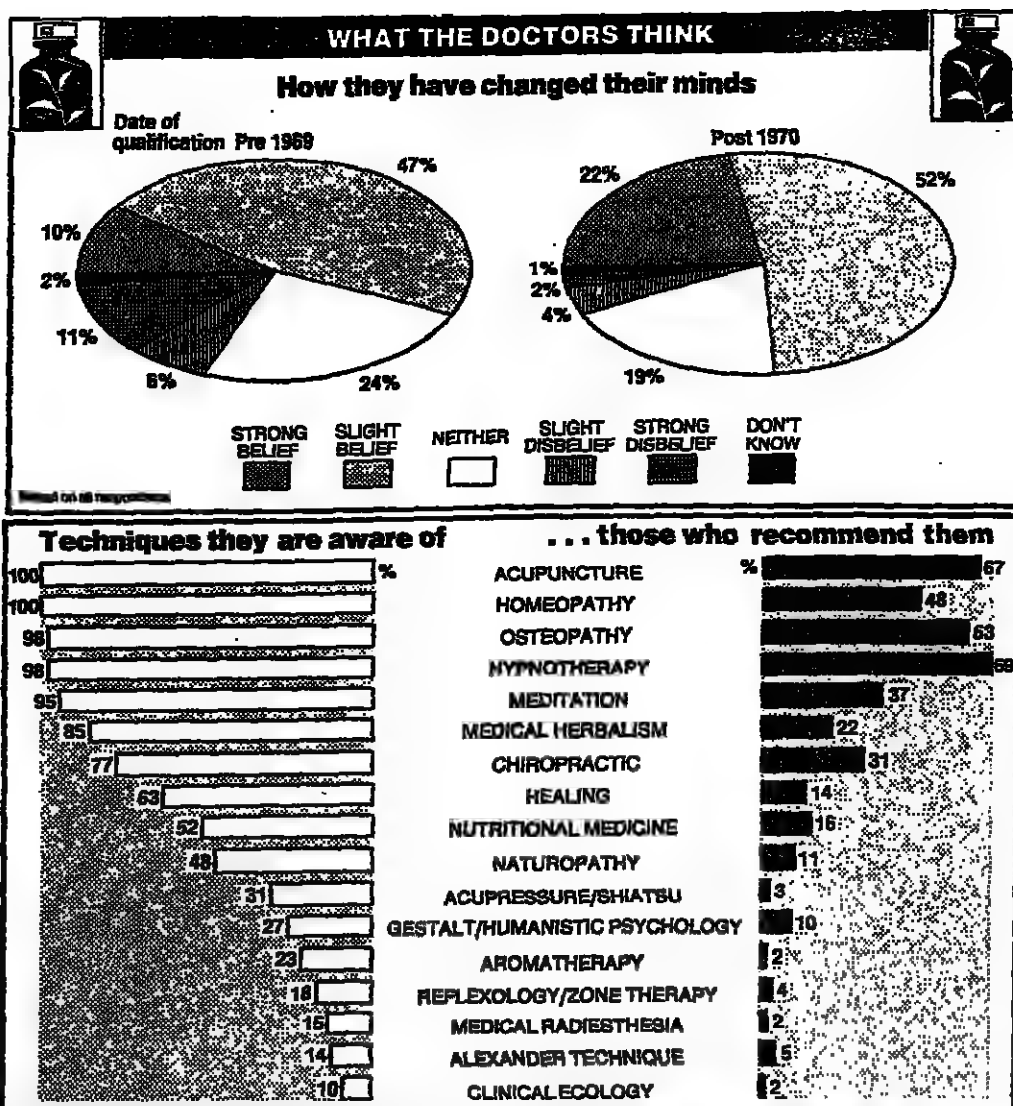
The willingness (as shown in our survey) of so many GPs to accept the value of alternative therapies is making any such rejection hard to sustain. But in any case, the main philosophical basis - holism, the desirability of treating the person,

rather than the symptoms - is theoretically at least, the philosophical basis of orthodox medicine. It is something medical students used to be taught, until the pharmaceutical revolution appeared to render it irrelevant. Under the illusion that they are practising holistic medicine, doctors do not realize how far removed their practice has in fact become; only 3 per cent of the sample of GPs thought that holism is an area of medicine that needs to be developed.

A growing number of GPs are opting for "alternatives" because they find that conventional forms of treatment, drugs in particular, are not appropriate for the needs of their patients - or because their patients do not find them satisfactory. It seems certain that this trend will continue. As the majority of patients will remain on the GP's list, he will not be deprived of his capitation fee if they go to an acupuncturist or osteopath.

In ordinary circumstances, the Department of Health and Social Security would by now have felt compelled to intervene on the public's behalf, to regulate this new growth industry. But in the House of Lords last week the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Lord Glenarthur, rejected the idea in a speech repeating almost every known BMA cliché. Medical care, he asserted, is too important to be dealt with "purely on the basis of unsupported claims".

He went further: "the proponents of a particular therapy need to be able to demonstrate



beyond doubt the efficacy of their treatment". Are those doctors who use the therapies not just heretics, but betrayers of their patients' trust? The hard fact is that GPs do not pay much attention to proofs of the efficacy of treatment - from drug trials, for example, brand drugs continue to be prescribed in spite of the evidence that they are no better than their generic equivalents.

Off the record, spokesmen for the DHSS make no secret of the real reason for its refusal to admit alternative therapies (except as professions supplementary to medicine, which it knows the therapists will not accept). The one absolutely firm departmental commitment at the moment is to incur no new expense. Although alternative medicine would be much cheaper in the long run the immediate cost of admission would be alarming.

This is why it has been left to the Council for Complementary and Alternative Medicine to form its own organization, aiming to "set its house in order" - as editorials in medical journals have so often urged - by laying down standards of education, training, qualification and discipline, for the public's protection.

For the present, its 1,250 members belong to only eight of the alternative therapy organizations; and two important ones, the British School of Osteopathy and the Society of Osteopaths, have held aloof, but the assumption is that if the CCAM can establish itself as an effective spokesman for the alternatives, others will set their

THE EXPERT VIEW

Alternative medicine is a confusing term. In both orthodox and unorthodox medicine there are treatments of proven or unproven value. One of the great attractions of so-called "alternative" medicine is that its practitioners spend a great deal of time listening to their customers - which traditional medicine should also be doing. The results of this survey are not surprising. The finding that half of the GPs either practised or would like to practise acupuncture, hypnotherapy or osteopathy shows their open-mindedness. The scepticism of doctors in Scotland may reflect their own and their patients' wish for scientific evaluation of all untried treatments.

Professor Ian McColl, Guy's Hospital

Dr Patrick Pietroni, Chairman, British Holistic Medical Assoc.

Carrott in search of theatrical roots

It is typical of Jasper Carrott that he managed to be out of the country when it was announced last week that he was temporarily forsaking the stand-up comic routine which has earned him about a million pounds, awards and an adoring, if somewhat "cult", following. From April 15 until July 6, he will tour Britain in his first stage role, as star of *The Nerd*, a comedy which relies more than most on the ability of the central character.

Instead of indulging in the normal showbiz frolic of self-congratulatory hype, he did the next worst thing. He authorized his manager's assistant, Les Ward, to release two bleak sentences to an anxious world. "I am looking forward to what is a very interesting challenge with great enthusiasm. I'm sure I'm going to learn a lot from this tour." It was the sort of schmalz which Carrott the comedian would have satirized with voracious relish. "He is", admitted Les, "a bit cagey about what he says".

The dose of neurotic who overcomes his problems by masquerading as a comedian is an entertainment cliché of considerable banality. Luckily, Carrott in person exhibits few of the symptoms. It is just that he is a most unlikely star who insists he found fame by accident and doesn't want the false glitter it can bestow.

Pale, balding and middle aged - he was 40 last month - he is diffident and refuses to seek publicity. He lives quietly with his wife, Hazel, and their four children in a suburb of Birmingham.

"I want to be anonymous. The less people know about me, the better. Then they can judge the comedy by itself without worrying about where I stand on issues and who I am. I feel uncomfortable with adulation. Hand on heart, every time I perform it is a big event to me and I never think any audience will be easy."

Last year, he travelled incognito to the United States to seek a second dose of fame and fortune. At two o'clock one morning he found himself "starring" at the comedy room of Caesar's Palace in Lake Tahoe, Nevada, in front of an audience of about a dozen indifferent gamblers.

"I blew it, and 'died' in front of them - which is a most unpleasant experience. I talked for about 20 minutes, instead of the usual 45, and then left the stage. It was really humbling after playing to packed auditoriums in England, but it is probably good for the soul. Anyone can make mistakes, but you are stupid only if you don't learn from them."

His anecdotal style, in which stories spiral off into elaborate subplots, relies to a large extent on mimicry combined with extraordinary facial expressions - pop-eyed bewilderment and chinless incomprehension - as well as a certain cosy conspiracy with his audience.

"I've always been a reluctant performer and I am totally dissatisfied with everything," says Carrott. "I would like to be about ten times better than I am, but I know I don't have the talent. I am asked to do a lot of work just because of my name - and I turn it down because I couldn't do it justice."

He was born and brought up in Birmingham, left Moseley Grammar School at 16 with two "O" levels, and his first job was selling toothpaste for dentures.

Ruth West and Brian Inglis

His real name is Bob Davies, but he was called Jasper at school for no real reason, and added Carrott when he was 17.

His father, who died 12 years ago, was an engineer with a penchant for unusual get-rich-quick ideas. "He bought 10,000 street lamp covers from the council, which might seem crazy to anyone else, but they had a purpose to my dad. He was lonely, and I have probably inherited that element from him. I tend to be a loner."

When he was 25 he borrowed £50 from a friend and opened a folk club in Solihull called The Boggery. "I wanted to be an impresario but the agency bugged out after three years. I played a guitar and told stories in clubs just to try to keep it going. When I was 30 there was a crisis point. I thought, 'God, I'm old, I haven't made it, and it's downhill from here'. Four months later, I had a hit record (*Funky Moped*) and it all started."

He decided to try his luck in America because he considers he is a product of their stand-up humour. "I knew Tom Lehrer's albums backwards and then I got into Shelley Berman, Bill Cosby and Bob Newhart. I love

that style of raconteur delivery and have never fitted into the main stream of comedy in Britain because I don't go with the tits and bums thing."

"Before I accepted any paid work in America I did a lot of 'open mike' nights where a couple of dozen comics do ten minute turns, hoping to be discovered. In Los Angeles the competition is so intense - about 1,000 working comedians compared to about 50 in London - that you even have to audition to see if you are good enough to work free."

"I was paranoid about failure and felt that I had a right to do it privately. You know that you can always fail. A singer can't really fail, because people will always applaud. If a comedian doesn't get a laugh - that's it."

"The first mistake I made in America was that I thought I could go out and be loud. But you don't want to be loud and it goes around like wild fire - even if you are doing it free. In the end it went very well. On my last trip I did paid gigs - about £30 a night."

"I think I was accepted quickly because I suddenly confronted them with a heritage - a raucous one - that they were no longer doing. Intense competition and fear has forced them to abandon subtlety. The idea is to get to the big gag lines, have 'em laughing immediately and be funny for five or six minutes. There is no time to develop."

"I took him some time to accept the challenge of acting on stage. 'I left Carrott's Lib and jumped in at the deep end. But no matter what level of success you achieve - bam, it's all in the past and you can't do it again. So you have to work twice as hard just to stand still. Television is an awkward medium which has to be approached for what it is - two dimensional, and in people's front rooms, I would like to be topical, but it is a tremendous problem to put together 40 minutes every week. I am one of those terrible wussy wussy people who sees all sides and I have to gulp hard if I meet someone I have had a go at."

The relatively safe cocoon of a stage may be comforting - for a while.

Andrew Duncan

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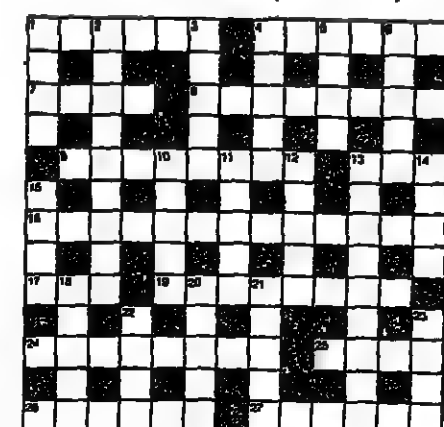
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Mistress of the bed chamber

What makes women's bedrooms such fascinating places? Elizabeth Dickson, whose new book pulls back the bed covers on such names as Zandra Rhodes and the Countess of Lichfield, explained all to Alan Franks from her own bedroom

Not long after arriving at Elizabeth Dickson's nice little house in west London, I demanded to be taken to her bedroom. She moved from the striped pine kitchen across the pale Amico tiling of the hall and began to mount the stairs. With one bound I was at her side.

A sharp February light was lancing in from above the roofs of the opposite terrace, white as icing on the fresh lace curtains and the tablecloth bedspread. The floor was richly decked with Persian rugs; the Dolcisera doors of the built-in wardrobe unit were shut fast against the intruder's gaze, as if to disclaim the yellowing wallpaper within - the poor taste of an earlier occupant.

The usual junk of the bedroom had been hurriedly (or carefully?) dismissed beneath the room's central piece of furniture. An ancient Adler typewriter lay at rest on a miniature table from a previous residence in Edinburgh. It was early afternoon and the teenage child were not yet home. Our reporter made his excuses and stayed.

It was, after all, a routine business call, for Mrs. Dickson

Emotional and passionate hearths are frozen almost to still-lives

has just edited a book called *The Englishwoman's Bedroom*, and must have guessed that her own sleeping quarters would be one of the first subjects for inspection. She yielded to my demand with not the semblance of bad grace.

Quite rightly, for she has recently spent several months of her life doing the same to - and the time has come to drop

names - such as Princess Nicholas von Preussen, Lady Annabel Goldsmith, the Duchess of Beaufort, and Jean Shrimpton.

Collections such as this must and will invite facetiae - particularly from the unfair sex - at a time when the publishing industry is so immersed in domestic settings, whether kitchens, gardens, kitchen gardens or outdoor toilets in the Cotswolds. The fact is that, no matter how a household has gaily mandered the boundaries, a dining room is where you go to dine, a bathroom is where you go to bathe, and a bedroom is where you go not just to sleep.

Mrs. Dickson's 26 subjects, winnowed down from a shortlist of three times that number, have prepared for her arrival, just as she did for mine, and just as housewives are said to do for the visit of the domestic help.

In other words, when someone comes to do business with you, the tendency is to present that privacy in its least abandoned light. What we have here therefore is a series of women's bedrooms (note they are not couples' bedrooms even though most of the subjects have partners) in which the camera has suspended the life in the interests of sustaining the conception. The rooms have been rendered back into immaculate confections - even Dr Christina Carruth's bedroom-cum-surgery. Emotional and passionate hearths are frozen almost to still-lives.

This is not quite the criticism it sounds. Firstly, the photographs by Lucinda Lambton are superbly composed and lit and catch each shade and facet of some very intricate decors, from journalist Sarah Forbes's studio flat to the novelist Lisa St Aubin de Terlan's pre-Raphaelite folly in the Norfolk fens. Secondly, if, as Mrs. Dickson suggests, reticence is an important characteristic of the



In the master bedroom: Elizabeth Dickson reclining at home

Englishwoman (whoever she may be), then for their bedrooms to be presented otherwise would itself be a form of deception.

The book begins to make sense only when one reads the accompanying accounts by the occupants. Again they are, on the surface, formal and rather stand-backish affairs, full of lauded privacy and the modesty of good breeding. Yet just when the temptation is strongest to dismiss the whole thing as another vacuous exercise for the coffee table, there emerges a string of eloquent revelations about what Laurence Durrell would call the spirit of place; in these instances it has much to do with the recollection of childhood through the domestic landscape, and with the adult's wish either to perpetuate or override that recall.

The Countess of Lichfield, for example: "As a child I spent quite a lot of time in London in Bourdon House, Bond Street, which is now Malletts. It was a labyrinth of dark and narrow 18th-century passages which were curtained with red and white striped damask that waved in the draughts, and my

There emerges a string of eloquent revelations about the spirit of place

banishment place, either for bad behaviour, or having to go to sleep.

"I think one should enjoy one's bedroom, because one spends so much time in it, and I have taken the trouble with our children's bedrooms for that reason."

Then there is the designer Zandra Rhodes, for whom fantasy is the guiding force. There she is, surrounded by, rucked tulle over gold lamé in grotty North Kensington, with hidden mirrors throwing out "a wondrous pink glow to help my mood... although the total

concept of the bedroom is one of fantasy, the look of extravagance was achieved in a very down-to-earth way."

At first, Mrs. Dickson denies that she is obsessed with bedrooms, although the weight of evidence is against her: six intense months of her life crammed with little else; even during a week's break in Tuscany she admits that whenever she passed a cottage in the countryside she was seized with the need to go in and inspect the bedroom. Asked why she did the book, she says: "Because I was asked to by Carmen Callil" (once of Virago, now of Chatto and Windus). "Being asked to by Carmen" is sufficient cue for most authors, but it doesn't account for the obsession.

Mrs. Dickson is a willowy, rather mournful and (that word again) reluctant woman with a broken marriage and a nomadic childhood as the only daughter of an admiral, "Bert" Dickson. Her book is surely the work of someone who for the formative years could feel at home only in other people's houses.

This memory, declared after literally hours of pondering the question, is strong testimony: "I can remember this attic bedroom in Somerset where I was staying with friends while I was waiting for school certificates results, and I sat there, and there were people playing tennis outside; there were, sagging bookshelves and faded chintz covers and small windows; and I was on the outside, observing other people's way of life. It was

their place, and I was passing through. This book is, for me, a sort of final summary of that passing through."

This is the heart of the matter. Rooms, particularly intimate ones, are far more than interiors; they are accretions of the owner's past. Mrs. Dickson herself seems to see her own youth almost entirely in terms of its lodgings; the eau-de-Nil passages of Scottish residential hotels, the steel-bedded dorms of the school on the borders, the quarters at Greenwich where you had to pass the quadrangle to get to the loo; the bullet-strafed door of a bedroom in wartime Athens.

The wandering went on: nine bed-sitters - "all straight out of Poland" - and later, after her divorce, a bedroom with a hole in the ceiling.

Not surprisingly, the book is as much about fragments of lives told through the medium of rooms as it is about rooms described by the occupants. One of the strangest things is that there is not a single actress (unless you include the antique dealer Virginia Wetherell) to be found in these pages. Many were called - 18, in fact - but none would be chosen. How could this most demonstrative of professions suddenly turn out about bedrooms? Mrs. Dickson has no answers, and this time she is not being reticent.

The last straw is provided, of course, by the Government. The cuts, rate capping and derisory salaries are bad enough; but Sir Keith's latest plans, delivered in

Where is there hope at the chalk face?

FIRST PERSON

Betty Rosen

My teacher morale hit its highest spot one sunny August morning 25 years ago when my headmaster started me, a raw recruit, by scuttling, pink and pleased across the school lawn to tell me what I had come to find out - my pupils' O-level results in English Language and English Literature.

In those days, when classroom achievement was for me largely synonymous with success in external examinations, an unfavourably appreciative and encouraging headmaster was enough to keep my professional spirits aglow. Even if such approval were forthcoming nowadays for what amounts to similar achievements in far more difficult circumstances - "then" was a comfortable, well-equipped, grammar school in rural England; "now" is an urban multi-ethnic boys' comprehensive under threat of closure - it would be of only passing concern to me: exam success becomes part of one's job, so one outgrows any sort of simplistic pride in it.

The fact is that classroom achievement now means a whole range of additional things: effectively setting up situations for productive talk and collaborative learning; winking out each person's individual strength and building upon it; being amazed by the power of a child's ideas and use of words in written work which would not have materialized but for the stimulus of one's teaching; promoting a love of books; knowing that a newly-arrived, monolingual, Turkish speaker will not only progress by leaps and bounds in mainstream English lessons, but will contribute to the learning of others; ensuring that pupils' bilingualism or trilingualism is a source of admiration in the classroom, and so on.

But who cares? The public has been shifted carefully to the view that teachers are an inferior, undervalued, bunch. Local authority figures - officers, advisors, elected members - are right out of the Alec Clegg era and into the eighties: many don't want to go into classrooms or are too overworked to get there, so have become dangerously distanced from the chalk face.

The latest HMI document, *English 5-16*, was written by someone quite capable of stringing together a list of undifferentiated objectives, but who completely failed to cope with the genuine question: Why are we teaching English? How should it be taught? Who are its recipients?

The last straw is provided, of course, by the Government. The cuts, rate capping and derisory salaries are bad enough; but Sir Keith's latest plans, delivered in

his Chester speech on January 4 and familiar enough before that date to TES readers, kicks at the already beaten.

Headteachers, we learn, are now to fire as well as hire. Can your readers recall an article two or three years ago in the TES concerning the criteria by which heads are appointed? The research drew attention to one criterion that was conspicuously absent: skill in the classroom. Heads today - our captains of educational industry, the "managers" - would not only find it a tricky matter to recognize the sort of achievements I referred to earlier, which are essential for good classroom teaching, but might well not be remotely interested.

How can head "teachers" assess qualities they may have long forgotten themselves, or possibly never even have possessed if the research is to be believed? Who of any status is close enough to the reality of today's classroom to offer him acceptable advice? What advice can Sir Keith give him? What is a bad teacher?

It will be fine if the "bad teacher" is someone who arrives late, lets the children "copy out" or "colour in" or otherwise have a "free lesson", and is so absorbed in the mail or writing his letters of application at the front of the class that he doesn't see the headmaster coming - though no doubt the offender is fairly safe if he's on a Scale 3 or above.

Since Sir Keith's speech *The Times* has published an article by one Digby Anderson entitled "British Schools of Muddling". He hazards the suggestion that 76 per cent of primary school-teachers could well be "dud" (his term) and suggests that the teaching of reading and writing ought to be conducted on the same lines as the teaching of driving in driving schools - the faster and cheaper, the better.

There is no suggestion that a primary school has any other purpose but to teach these two skills, by implication comparable to skill in driving a car. How the sins of government manipulation of the media have come home to roost! We are no longer to face opposing, rational, argument, but straight doses of vitriol dealt against teachers by writers who are abysmally ignorant, yet are patronized by the most responsible, the most venerable, newspaper in the land!

Will someone tell me, please, where are the sources of hope?

If you want to know what's good for you, read the new look Here's Health.

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More information.

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ON SALE NOW

Here's Health
The magazine that's good for you.

Flour power and the perfect pasta

Mushroom ketchup is the traditional English method of preserving the flavour of fungi for use beyond their seasons. In less damp climates than ours, drying is the preferred method of storing fungi of all kinds. Because dehydration concentrates and intensifies the flavour of many types of mushrooms they are particularly useful for stuffings and sauces.

Other fungi, like the Chinese wood ears and cloud ears, have different uses. These unprepossessing black curls swell many times more in boiling water. In no time at all they turn into fragile looking frills, dark chestnut in colour and translucent. It is their colour and texture which are particularly attractive, and a few pence worth of these will add a touch of the exotic to many dishes. One or two pieces on the centre of a portion of home made ravioli stuffed with chicken and porcini, with a richly flavoured sauce, works well in terms of colour, flavour and texture.

Chicken and mushroom ravioli
Serves four to six
3 large eggs
310g (11oz) strong flour, preferably unbleached
1 teaspoon salt

For the filling:
15g (½oz) dried mushrooms porcini
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 shallot, finely chopped
110g (4oz) cooked chicken, minced or finely chopped

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Shona Crawford Poole

Salt
Freshly ground black pepper
Freshly grated nutmeg
For the sauce:
300ml (½ pint) good chicken stock
120ml (4 fl oz) double cream
1 egg yolk
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

To make pasta by hand, beat the eggs lightly in a small bowl. Sift the flour and salt on to a work surface. Make a well in the centre and add the eggs. Using one hand to beat the mixture, and the other to support the walls of flour until the eggs have been incorporated; work the eggs gradually into the flour to form a stiff dough. Knead the dough for about five minutes, or until it is smooth and elastic.

Using a food processor, pasta is simpler still. Fix the metal blade in the bowl, add the eggs and process them briefly. With the machine running, add the flour and salt through the feed-tube (use a sheet of paper to funnel them in). Continue processing until the dough forms a ball, and then for another minute to knead it. Keep the dough covered until you are ready to roll and fill it.

To make the filling, put the dried mushrooms in a bowl and cover them with 300ml (½ pint) of boiling water. Leave them to

soak until tender. Drain the mushrooms, reserving the liquid, and wash them free of any grit. Chop them finely. Strain the liquid.

Heat the oil in a small pan and add the shallot. Cook on a low heat until it is tender but not browned. Add the chopped mushrooms and the chicken and cook the mixture for a few minutes to allow the flavours to blend. Season it well with salt, pepper and a little grated nutmeg. Bear in mind that the filling will be enclosed in bland pasta.

Roll out the dough thinly by hand, or using a mechanical pasta rolling machine. Place small blobs of filling at regular 3.5cm (1½ inch) intervals on one sheet of dough. Lay a second sheet of dough on top of the first. Press the two sheets of pasta together between the blobs of filling. Work out from the centre, trapping as little air as possible.

Use a knife or pastry wheel to cut the pasta into neat squares - each pillow of dough enclosing a morsel of filling. Lay the ravioli in a single layer on a tray dusted with semolina or on a lightly floured tea-cloth.

Home-made ravioli can be cooked immediately or dried for an hour or two before using. As fresh pasta takes only a few minutes to cook, the sauce can be made before cooking the ravioli.

To make the sauce, put the chicken stock and strained mushroom soaking liquid in a pan and reduce by fast boiling to about 120ml (4 fl oz). Stir in two thirds of the cream and season the sauce to your taste. Mix the remaining cream with the egg yolk. Off the heat, stir the egg and cream liaison into the sauce. Then, making sure that from now on the sauce does not boil, heat it gently until the egg thickens - it sufficiently to coat the back of a wooden spoon. Keep it warm.

To cook the pasta, bring a large pan of water to a brisk

boil. Add salt and a tablespoon of oil. Drop in the pasta, bring the water back to the boil as quickly as possible and cook the ravioli until it is as tender as you like it. It should have a little bit of bite left. Drain it well and arrange the pillows of ravioli on serving plates. Pour a little of the sauce over each serving and serve at once.

A few pieces of rehydrated Chinese wood ear mushrooms look pretty on this dish. Freshly grated Parmesan cheese may be sprinkled on the ravioli if you like it.

The proportions of flour and egg in the pasta dough for this ravioli produce a firm-textured pasta with real character. The same dough can be used to make thick or thin ribbon noodles to serve as a first course with butter and Parmesan or in smaller quantities, as an accompaniment to breaded and fried escalopes of veal, chicken or turkey. A little fresh garlic crushed on to the escalopes before frying them and a wedge of lemon squeezed over them afterwards are good tastes which can stand repetition.

Cheese and spinach ravioli
Serves four to six

1 recipe pasta dough (see previous recipe)

For the filling:
55g (2oz) blanched spinach, chopped
110g (4oz) fresh ricotta or curd cheese
30g (1oz) freshly grated parmesan
1 egg yolk
Salt and freshly ground black pepper
Freshly grated nutmeg

Combine all the ingredients for the filling and mix them well, adjusting the seasoning to taste. Fill ravioli using the method described in the previous recipe. Cook the ravioli in boiling water and serve it with a little butter and freshly grated Parmesan.

THE TIMES DIARY

The Tower for PHS?

The investigators of the investigation of their own affairs, Sir Edward Gardner, chairman of the Commons home affairs committee, has reported to the Speaker for disclosing details last week of the anodyne draft report of the committee's inquiry into the Special Branch. Yesterday the Speaker said he would allow a debate on the matter today. If the motion is carried, the committee of privileges will sit in judgment.

Drinks on tap

The bath oil I massaged in this morning should take on a different meaning from now on: the stuff is manufactured by Anita Roddick of The Body Shop who, if my predictions are correct, will win the Business Woman of the Year Award, to be announced in London today. As I nominated her, a case of champagne will be mine, courtesy of the award sponsors Veuve Clicquot, if she wins.

● Mrs Thatcher, David Owen and Neil Kinnock were not short of reading matter on their flight to Moscow yesterday. David Steel came on board clutching four advance copies of his new book on the Scottish Border country and presented one to each of them.

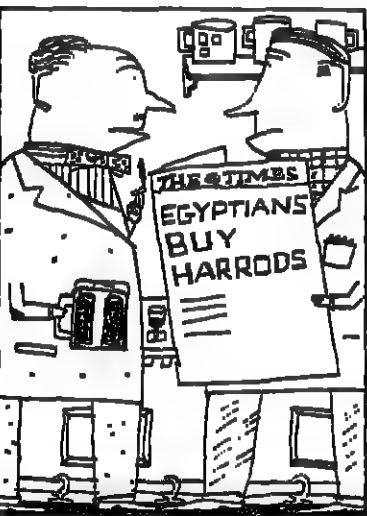
Flag pole

When the Poles saw the stars and stripes at half-mast over the American embassy in Moscow some hours before the official Kremlin announcement of Chernenko's death, they thought the CIA must have some advance knowledge. Not so, it transpired. The flag was simply mourning the death of two American officials killed in Mexico. Realizing the flag was being hoisted at the embassy, the embassy staff, and is now mourning no one at all.

Telecomic

Housewife-entrepreneur Valerie Stafford of Hanwell in London is losing no time capitalizing on the phasing-out of red telephone boxes over the next decade. British Telecom sells them as they become available for between £100 and £200. Mrs Stafford, however, has tapped a secret supply from BT and is reselling them at £450. "I've converted my own into a conservatory," she told me. Ten minutes later she rang back. "I've just had a word with my daughter and I think I should tell you the whole truth. I'm putting garden gnomes in it and calling it a Gnome Home," she blurted out.

BARRY FANTONI



"I hope we're not in for another spat of pyramid selling."

Rich soil

It is not the answers given but the questions asked in *The Field's* latest readership survey that speak volumes about the magazine. A four-page questionnaire asks if you own "two or more estates," your total acreage (1-2500, 2501-10000, 10001-50000, 50000+), if you own your own fishing, the number of horses you keep ("20 or more?"), how many children you are educating privately under the age of four, how many four-wheel-drive cars you have and the number of other residences you own ("not time share"). I don't know why they bother asking if you read the *Daily Mirror*.

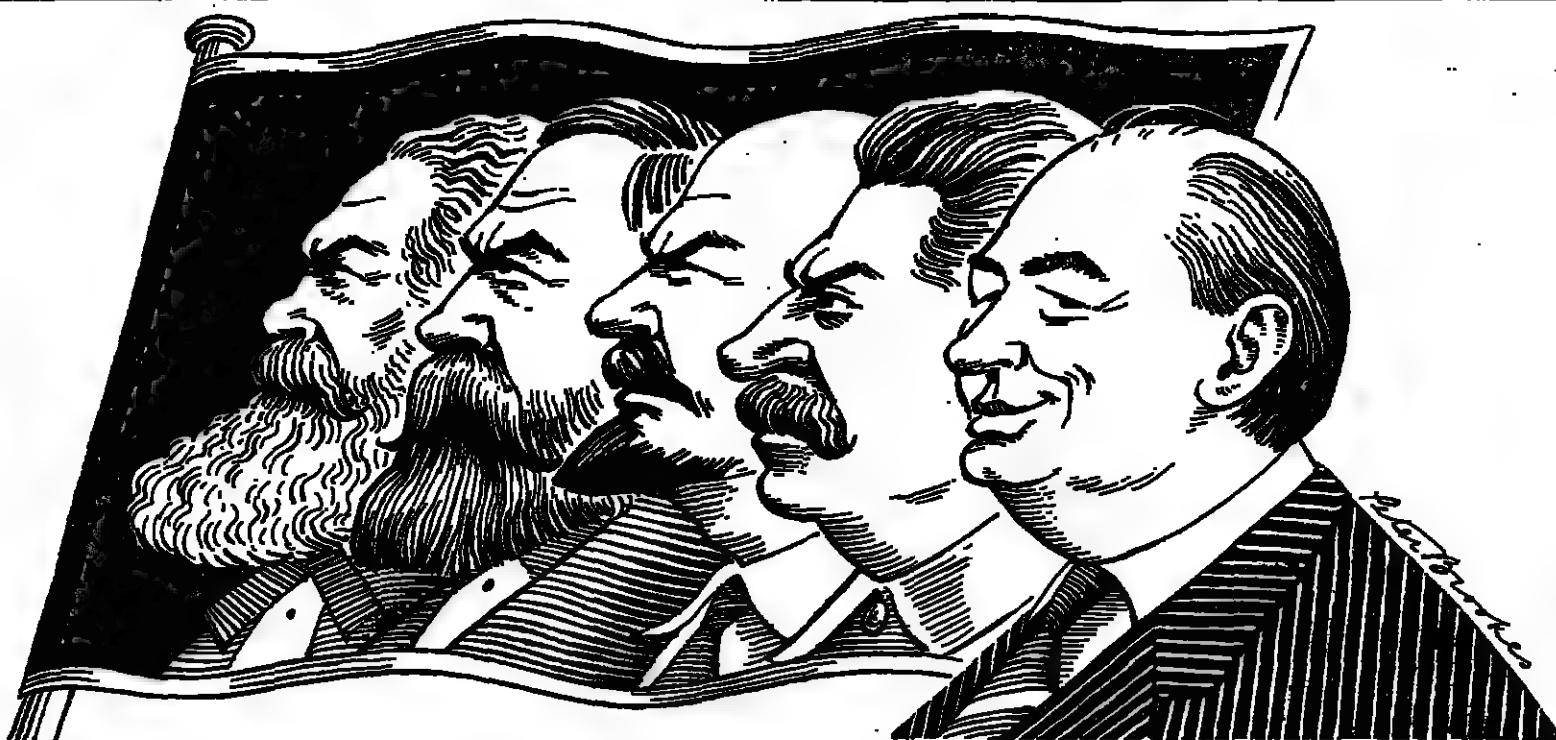
Machine minder

With memories still fresh of last year's uncanny press predictions of the Budget, the Treasury this year is taking no chances. Before using the photocopier in the Budget Unit, civil servants have to report to a paper monitor who issues individually numbered sheets of copy paper and marks the user's name against a list.

Highbrow beaten

Last week David Gothard, sacked artistic director of the Riverside Studios in Hammersmith, told me that the GLC saw him as "elitist". Stung into a reply, GLC arts chairman Peter Pitt told councillors: "The GLC's record shows that Mr Gothard's statements are totally false." Funny, I've just received a confidential GLC "briefing note" that clearly states: "Many would see the Riverside as very much a 'high art establishment', far removed from the centre of the GLC's arts policies." The GLC does not find the present artistic policy wholly acceptable. And another thing, it goes on, only two out of the 38 staff are black.

PHS



My message to Britain

By Mikhail Gorbachov

The Soviet people remember the ties between our peoples in the most devastating war of all time. They remember how more than 40 years ago a British prime minister presented the people of Stalingrad with an honorary sword, a symbol of close cooperation between the Soviet and British people in the anti-Hitler coalition. We think that all the good, fruitful and constructive things that our countries and peoples have acquired and accumulated in their relations over various historical periods should be carefully preserved and carried on.

In the 1970s Europe became a cradle for the policy of détente. Important areas of cooperation between the countries of Western Europe, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries were found and fixed at that time. We still believe that there is and can be no rational alternative to the policy of peaceful coexistence, and I would like to emphasize this point with all certainty.

The natural question arising from the aforesaid is why the danger of war so effectively forced back at that time has drawn closer once again? I would like to repeat the Soviet view that the turn for the worse - and this is confirmed by the facts - was caused by the changes in the policies of certain forces which have been trying to gain military superiority and thereby gain an opportunity to dictate their will to others.

We see our goal in joint settlement, since no one is in a position to do it single-handed, of the more important problems which are essentially common for us. These are preventing war, stopping the arms race and proceeding to disarmament, settling existing and averting potential conflicts and crimes and creating an international atmosphere which would enable each country to concentrate its attention and resources on settling its own problems.

If Britain adheres to this line, we will be glad to cooperate with her. And if the US sticks to this line, too, and really puts its policy on the track of peaceful cooperation, it will find a reliable partner in ourselves. Preventing a nuclear war is the most burning issue for all people. It goes without saying that the questions of defence and security must be decided by sovereign states by themselves. But I might state that any concrete step towards removing the threat of a nuclear war anywhere, Europe included, will find a corresponding practical response on our part.

It is true, of course, that not infrequently the positions of the Soviet Union and Great Britain differ on crucial international matters. Neither we, nor you, would hide this fact. But it is our deep conviction that at the present time,

more than ever before, all countries and peoples need constructive dialogue and a search for solutions to the key international issues; we need spheres of accord to be found which could promote confidence among regions and create such an atmosphere in international relations as would be free from a nuclear threat, hostility, suspicion, fear and enmity.

My country has set forth its attitude in plain and unambiguous terms: tension should be overcome and disagreements and disputes resolved at the negotiating table, with due consideration for the legitimate interests of each side rather than through the threat or use of force; and interference in internal affairs should be excluded.

The Soviet leadership stands for forthright and honest talks to help us, on a mutually acceptable basis, limit and reduce arms, primarily nuclear weapons, and eventually eliminate them. We are ready to go here as far as our Western partners in the talks. Naturally enough, quality and equal security shall underlie any agreements in this field. And, of course, any course that seeks military superiority over the USSR and its allies is unacceptable and has no prospects.

Going back over 60 years, the history of Soviet-British relations contains unforgettable landmarks.

Since the war we have seen both years of fruitful cooperation and slump. Nowadays the relations between our countries, which develop not in a political vacuum, but in the anxious atmosphere of growing danger of a nuclear war, are not on the upgrade and are far from ideal. At one time Britain ranked first in trade with the USSR. It has now gone to seventh or eighth place. I agree with those British businessmen and industrialists who say that politics must promote trade which, in turn, must facilitate mutual understanding and confidence.

The foreign policy of a nation is inseparable from developments on its domestic scene, from its socio-economic goals and requirements. Our party and state in general emphasize economic advance through efficiency and intensive growth factors. We concentrate on the early introduction of the latest achievements of science and engineering in industry and agriculture. Using the fruits of the current revolution in science and technology, we are tackling targets to be reached by the year 2000.

The Soviet Union needs peace to implement its huge development programmes. Allow me to express the Soviet people's most sincere wishes of peace, happiness and prosperity to the people of Britain.

Extracted from a speech to the *Commons Select Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House of Commons*, December 18.

Robert Fisk on the local roots of Lebanon's Shia fundamentalists

Tyre, southern Lebanon

On the eve of his murder in Israeli-occupied southern Lebanon last week, Khalil Jeradi, the Lebanese guerrilla resistance movement's diminutive but powerful local commander, turned to me and uttered a terrible, almost prophetic warning. He talked in a strange high-pitched but slow voice. "I assure you," he said, "that Israel will not be able to crush the people of southern Lebanon. They are more powerful than the Israelis. The fingers of the people of southern Lebanon are between Israel's teeth. Both sides are biting. Who will scream first?" There was no doubt who Jeradi believed would bite hardest. In the space of just over two years, the raging guerrilla force from one of the world's weakest nations has launched a ferocious offensive on what was supposed to be one of the world's most formidable armies. Locked into a savage conflict with tens of thousands of civilians as well as guerrillas, the Israeli army is now experiencing the first defeat of its existence, a tactical and strategic retreat from one of the greatest military blunders in recent Middle East history.

Academics, especially in Israel and the United States, like to attribute Shia Muslim radicalism in southern Lebanon to some form of revolutionary inspiration from Iran, as if Ayatollah Khomeini exerted a physical power over this region. They ignore the fact that this radicalism was partly created by Israel, indeed most recently by the misbehaviour of Israeli soldiers and Shin Bet agents against Shia Muslim civilians. Even more seriously, however, they ignore the fact that the Iranian revolution did not begin in Qom or in the streets of Tehran. It began in southern Lebanon itself.

Over the homes deliberately destroyed by the Israeli soldiers in raids on south Lebanese villages, there now inevitably hang portraits of Imam Moussa Sadr, the Shia Muslim cleric who once led the "deprived" poor of southern Lebanon and who disappeared in Libya in 1978. Moussa Sadr has become a legend now, almost a Twelfth Imam, a bearded figure of quasi-Arthurian stature who leads his people more powerfully in death than he ever did in life. Colonel Gaddafi probably had him put to death. But to the Shias of southern Lebanon, he is still alive.

More importantly, he was not Lebanese, as the world seems to believe. He was an Iranian and was born in Qom. Even more crucially, he was the key link between the Iranian opposition to the Shah and the Ayatollah Khomeini when the latter was enduring his angry exile in the Iraqi city of Najaf.

Moussa Sadr lived in Tyre. His sister, Raban, married Hussein Chareddine, from one of the most prominent Lebanese Shia families in the city. And to Tyre, in the grey days of opposition, came almost all the figures who were to be, after 1979, the kingmakers and spiritual leaders of Iran. To Moussa Sadr's Jebel Amel College outside the city came Mehdi Bazargan, who was to be Khomeini's first prime minister.

Bazargan's deputy, Sadeq Tabatabai - still one of Khomeini's closest aides - came here each year. So did Ayatollah Mohamed Beheshti, later to become leader of the Islamic Republican Party and Iranian minister of justice. Indeed, Mustapha Chamran, the bearded and enigmatic Iranian who was to become Khomeini's minister of defence, was one of the founders of the Jebel Amel College and taught there for several years. One of his pupils was a young electrical engineering student called Mohamed Saad who, years later, was to be Khalil Jeradi's leading explosives expert in the anti-Israeli resistance movement. Jeradi and Saad both attended prayers at the same mosque as Beheshti. So did many other Lebanese teenagers from the villages around Tyre.

Thus Jeradi and Saad and their colleagues grew up amid the conspiracy of revolution. For many years in southern Lebanon, it was Jeradi himself that finally brought two doctrinal national revolutions together when his army raided the Jebel Amel College. Many reports spoke afterwards of the beating of pupils by Israeli soldiers. One of the students, Hassan Qasir, enraged by what had happened, drove an explosive-laden car into an Israeli army vehicle.

The bomb that blew up the guerrilla headquarters in Maaraké nine days ago, killing Saad as well as Jeradi, had added them to the list of Shia Muslim "martyrs". Their guerrilla movement includes the clergy and their struggle against the Israelis is now as ostensibly implacable as was Iran's against the Shah. For the first time, the Israelis have embarked on a war that appears to have no end.

And so, in the last months of Israel's disastrous war in Lebanon, its army is trapped. All the accoutrements of a brutal police state now exist in Israel's occupied southern Lebanon area. There are midnight arrests, hooding of prisoners, repeated reports of serious beatings at Israeli intelligence headquarters. There are killings and curfews and reprisal raids on civilian homes and a total Israeli military ban on independent press coverage of the war. The Israeli war in Afghanistan is not exact - but it is frightening.

Perhaps those in Israel who still believe they are fighting "terrorism" in Lebanon - a word that is almost a punctuation mark in their statements and is now applied almost exclusively by Israel to Lebanese guerrillas resisting a foreign occupation army on their own soil - occasionally remember Macbeth's despairing assessment that he was in blood steeped in so far that returning were as tedious as go o'er.

Certainly the Shia Muslim resistance would approve of such sentiments. They helped to give birth to them in Iran. And now, as the Israeli army tries to withdraw, they are waiting to see who screams first, just as Khomeini once did when he waited for another of the Middle East's formidable armies to give way.

Put out more flags for this little lot

British book-lovers have a last chance this month to prevent Austin, Texas, becoming the home of every last manuscript of the novels of Evelyn Waugh.

The manuscript of *Vile Bodies* in Waugh's hand, the only one of his novel scripts still remaining outside the Humanities Research Center of the University of Texas at Austin, comes up for sale at Christie's on March 27. The manuscript is much more than a bibliophile's investment opportunity. Its condition sheds great light on the curiously split character of a much-loved English novelist, Waugh began *Vile Bodies* - which he described to Harold Acton as "a welter of sex and snobbery written simply in the hope of selling some copies" - early in 1959 while on a belated honeymoon cruise with his wife. It was to be a light-hearted tale of the Bright Young People. The manuscript title-page bears an epigraph in Waugh's hand: "Bright young people and others, kindly note that all characters are wholly imaginary (and you get far too much publicity already, whoever you are)." Examination of the manuscript indicates that he wrote the first two chapters while on the cruise. Pages 1 to 18 are written on standard cream-coloured foolscap with no traces of folding, suggesting that he carried them back with him to be typed. Chapter Two ends suitably, with the return of the hero, Adam Fenwick-Symes, a young novelist, to London.

The next section, pages 19 to 51, is written on different paper - grey-headed lined foolscap, each page headed with the initials EW embossed in blue. These pages bear heavy traces of folding, indicating that Waugh wrote them while staying at the Abington Arms at Beckley, Oxfordshire, and posted them to his typist. The section ends at Chapter Five with, perhaps significantly in view of what was to occur in Waugh's personal life, an unsatisfactory first sexual encounter between Adam and his girlfriend, Nina Blount: "Anyway, you've had some fun out of it, haven't you? ... (Nina says to Adam) or haven't you?" "Haven't you?" "My dear, I never hated anything so much in my life."

On July 9 Waugh received a letter from his wife (known by his friends as She-Evelyn), whom he had left in their London house, 17a Canonbury Square, with Nancy Mitford for company, telling him that she had fallen in love with one of their friends, John Heygate. On July 12 he went up to London for a confrontation with his wife. She confessed that she and Heygate had been lovers; nevertheless there was a reconciliation on the understanding that she would give up Heygate.

Some time later that month, Waugh returned to Beckley to go on with the novel. On August 1 he arrived at the Canonbury Square house to find it deserted. The next day he received a letter from his wife

telling him she had gone to live with Heygate.

The shock paralysed Waugh's creativity. He did no work on the novel for two months. When he did take it up again later that autumn, it was, the manuscript shows, clearly a struggle. It is not until page 6 that the manuscript starts to flow. At this point the story of the Bright Young People takes on a darker cast. Life had turned sour for Waugh. This would be, he wrote to Henry Yorke, "certainly the last time I shall try and make a book about sophisticated people. It all seems to shrivel up and rot internally and I am relying on a sort of cumulative futility for any effect it may have."



"Do you like it? I do," Waugh on the first-edition dustjacket

Only two pages into the manuscript (later changed to page 3) he aims a snide phrase at Heygate, whom he privately dubbed the Basement Boy, referring to "cocktail parties given in basement flats by spotty announcers at the BBC". Nina throws Adam over for Ginger, a rich vulgar woman whom she marries (although Adam, in what is perhaps Waugh's fantasy revenge, later cuckolds Ginger and fathers Nina's child) while Agatha Runcible, brightest of the bright young people, dies of concussion after a motor-racing accident. Waugh finishes off the book with the declaration of European war; the last page of the manuscript reads, "The End Thank God EW."

Waugh had the manuscript of *Vile Bodies* bound by Malby of Oxford and presented it to the couple who had supported him in his trouble. Bryan Guinness (later Lord Moyne) and his wife Diana (later Lady Mosley). The presentation inscription reads: "Dear Bryan and Diana, I am afraid that this will never be of the smallest value but I thought that, as it is your book, you might be amused to have it (as a very much belated Christmas present). Best love from Evelyn."

Diana's son, Jonathan Guinness, Waugh's godson, was given the manuscript by his father on his thirtieth birthday. Christie's estimates its value at £15,000 to £20,000.

Sarah Bradford

Jack Straw

Seeking socialists up gravel drives

He was an optimist. For my agent, the only thing that lay between me and victory was relentless effort. With rain down my neck and the chill close to my bones, I would be ready to stop at half-past eight. "You'll be sorry if you miss it by a few votes," he'd say. "There's a village up the road, just a dozen houses, won't take us an hour."

I did miss it by a few votes: 18 separated me from the Liberal candidate. Sadly for both of us, the Tory was 10,000 in front. As I left the "village" on election night in February 1974, I consoled myself with the fact that I was £1 better off (the Liberal and I had had a side-bet on three votes), and that I had been right in thinking that Tonbridge and Malling was not after all the place where revolution was going to break out.

But my agent was right too; especially about those villages down the road. He was a machine-minder on the *Daily Mirror*. He enjoyed a lifestyle indistinguishable from many middle managers in industry. For him, there were no areas off-limits for Labour. Occasionally - more often than ever I expected - after I had generated that most expensive sound, the crunch of gravel, I was rewarded by a welcoming smile from a hitherto unknown and unimpoised comrade, who took a poster and offered to do some work.

It's an experience I've never forgotten. We have won two wards in Blackburn on the strength of it - wards which, before 1979, were regarded as so Tory that we scarcely, if ever, thought that they were worth the fight: wards full of neat new estates, the escape to which used to be featured on the back of conflate packets when I was at school.

The Tories spoiled the joy in the language of class politics years ago, with conspicuous success. At the last election almost twice as many working-class home-owners voted Tory as voted Labour (47 per cent against 27 per cent) while for council tenants the figures were almost exactly the reverse. But now the modest Macmillan aim of a "property-owning democracy" has turned into the stunningly ambitious goal of a "nation of capitalists".

But there is a join in the new Tory language of capitalism, too, and one which Labour could and should exploit. Very simply, we cannot have a nation of all capitalists. Capitalism cannot work without an accumulation of wealth and a concentration of power. The rhetoric of the right may suggest and insinuate a sharing of economic power, but the reality has moved in the opposite direction.

Home ownership has increased from 30 per cent to 60 per cent in three decades. But this has occurred at the same time as the agents of that increase, the building societies, have sought to move away from their original base of a fully participating mutual membership to an oligarchic system of control little different from that of the large corporation. The growth in private occupational pension schemes has seen little complementary widening of beneficiary involvement in the manage-

ment of the schemes. At the level of the large industrial or commercial corporation, the trend has overwhelmingly been towards an increasing, not diminishing, centralization of power. The clarion call to "let managers manage", the consequential diminution in the power of the shop floor, the removal of exchange controls, the dilution of planning regulations, have all meant the erosion of countervailing centres of power - in the trade unions, local authorities, Whitehall, Parliament - against that now exercised in the City and boardrooms.

Power has shifted, too, from the regions to south-east England as new technology increases the facility of remote control of subsidiaries. Inequalities of income and wealth have widened as the share of the best-off 10 per cent has improved (especially in terms of income). Many white-collar groups who once thought they had jobs for life now share with manual workers insecurity and the threat of redundancy. Even if they are safe, their children almost certainly are not. In economic terms, the division between that class which exchanges its labour for cash, and that which controls the major operations of the economy, has not been starker since the war. Class is fundamental to the ills of British society.

But Labour's mistake in the recent past has been to believe that it could exploit the politics of class with the language of class. Ninety per cent of the population may be wage slaves, but they do not see it that way. Class as a perception is not a matter of relative economic power, but of culture, lifestyle and shared experiences. Beyond those few groups, such as the miners, where perceptions and power coincide, appeals to the working class or even to "working people" now sound dated and ingenuitous. Sixty per cent of the population may still be workingclass by the adman's categorisation (C2DE), but many will describe themselves as middle-class and many more aspire to that condition. Labour must have an ideology robust enough to meet the challenge of double-glazing, the video recorder and the holiday in Tenerife.

Why so many of us should have swallowed the romantic nonsense that the only good socialist was a ragged-rousered one, God knows. We should be celebrating the improvement in material living standards, home ownership, education and conditions of work (not all of it yet eroded by this Government), the opportunities this gives to create a fairer society, and Labour's contribution towards all of this, rather than apologizing for it. It is with capitalism that a property-owning democracy is truly incompatible, since the latter would involve an equality of power and wealth that neither the philosophy nor the practice of the new right could stand. It is by addressing those who are embroiled in our present economic system, but who, in reality, control no part of it, that Labour's future lies. The author is Labour MP for Blackburn.

moreover... Miles Kingston

Let's just light up another question

So, Konstantin Chernenko is dead. The man they called the president of Soviet Russia is dead. The ruler of the most powerful nation outside America has passed to his forefathers. The big cheese has snuffed it. Yes, the leader whose word was law from Moscow to Manchuria has gone to the great retirement home in the sky. And now a thousand hack writers are busy at work churning out their obligatory valedictory articles around the globe.

What was he like, this arbiter of Communism whose hand was on the tiller which controlled the course of the Soviet empire? This ruthless party machine boss who held the threads which controlled the actions of millions of Russian citizens, what was he like? The simple answer is that, apart from the fact that he coughed a lot, we simply don't know. His finger was on the button of the mightiest war machine the world has ever seen, yet there isn't a damned thing to say about him. It is almost as if the man himself never actually existed in real life.

So what are they like, these thousand hacks who have been commanded to write their wise words about the late Konstantin Chernenko, the man whose passing is being honoured today by one of the greatest turn-outs of dark suits the world has seen since Yuri Andropov licked the buckles? They are frightened men, these syndicated columnists desperately trying to put a few words together. The editor is screaming for their articles, yet already they have reached paragraph three and can't think of anything else to say. No wonder they reach for their bottle of Scotch and send the messenger boy out for another packet of cigarettes.

But this much is certain. When all else fails, they will begin a paragraph saying: "But this much is certain". After that, perhaps they will say: "The world can never be quite the same again." Then they will look at what they have written and say, "That's ridiculous; the world will be exactly the same, because Mr Gorbachov is no different, only a bit younger. Then they will delete this paragraph and try another one, what starting "Who can honestly know what goes on in the Kremlin power game?"

Who can honestly know what goes on in the Kremlin power game? Certainly not the thousand hacks who wouldn't know a power game if it beat them over the head with a cigarette?

rolled-up *Financial Times*. Certainly not the editor who is screaming for their copy while trying to choose the best photo of the VIPs arriving in Moscow, preferably one with David Owen trying to upstage Neil Kinnock. Probably not even the messenger boy who has just come back with a packet of the wrong cigarettes. For God's sake you know I smoke Wild Strawberry Filters!

So what is he like, this messenger boy who has just had to go out for the second time to the kiosk on the corner and change the 20 Gitanes for Wild Strawberry Filters? Well, this much is certain. He doesn't give a damn who runs Russia. All he knows is that he has to write his time running around for the big-shot columnist, who has to waste his time churning out his thousand words for the editor, who has to waste his time screaming for copy in order to satisfy the proprietor, who has to waste his time doing whatever it is that newspaper proprietors do.

A bit like the Kremlin, really. Lots of people running round buying cigarettes and screaming at each other, with someone at the top wondering what to do next. But this much is certain. Mikhail Gorbachov is now the most powerful man in Soviet Russia, the man with a thousand messengers at his beck and call, ready to get a thousand packets of cigarettes, also to destroy the USA, if necessary.

So what is he like, this young, dynamic, balding new Red supreme? Well, we've no idea, really. But that doesn't prevent us churning out another thousand words of copy and, somehow, miraculously, amazingly, getting within reach of the final paragraph of our article which will, almost certainly, start with the words, "What of the future?"

What of the future? Will Gorbachov change the rules of the power game? Or will he hew close to the traditional image of the Soviet ruler? Will there be a loosening of the Communist structure or will it be business as usual? Isn't it nice asking all these questions? Doesn't it sound as if we know what we're talking about? When, in fact, we don't have the faintest idea what we're talking about and only time will tell?

So what of the future? Well, only time will tell. But this much is certain. The world can never be quite the same again. Thanks - how much do I owe you for the cigarette?



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

NO ROOMS TO LET

Today the House of Commons is asked to approve orders reducing the proportion of capital receipts which local housing authorities can recycle as improvement grants, repairs or new building. Much of the heat has gone out of the issue since Mr. Gow announced concessions allowing councils to keep the proceeds of building houses for speedy sale. The 20 per cent proportion the Government is today asking for is too small - councils are being penalized for good housekeeping and enthusiastic pursuit of the Right to Buy policy. Yet it is only too small if capital receipts are being recycled to good purpose, and that must be defined as the maximum mobilization of private housing effort, especially for housing to rent.

The Government has been slow to apply its radical edge to the heart of Britain's housing problem. Peter Rachman, a name from the 1960s, still hangs over Conservative housing policy, a curse on all landlords and an excuse for inaction on the supply side of private accommodation for rent. What else but a 20-year old guilty conscience has prevented ministers - a Cabinet committed, at the least, to a rigorous examination of the welfare state - from thinking about dismantling the apparatus of rent control and tenancy restriction? Ministers say, diffidently, "no private company in its right mind would invest in

building accommodation to rent" but in five years they do practically nothing. Now the housing lobbies, the bishops and the Royal Family rumble about an urban housing crisis; the homelessness figures rise and there are vivid case histories to match them. In response the Government is seemingly afraid to point to possible solutions in the private rented sector, to expound the role that landlords, small and large, might have in easing supply. At times the build-more-council-houses brigade is left in possession of the field while ministers entrench behind the strong (if unimaginatively built) walls of fiscal imperative.

The long and short of current housing policy is the extension of owner occupation. Here is an objective which matches a deeply-held popular ambition. Yet however stout, it cannot stand alone. The reality for the foreseeable future is owner occupation for the many, public housing for a substantial minority, the two tenures buttressed each in its own way with subsidy (the great machine of housing benefit on one side, £3.5 billion worth of mortgage tax relief on the other) and restrictive practice.

This cannot be the full housing profile of a nation on the move, one responding to economic change, an occupationally mobile if less comfort-

able nation. A pool of rented housing is needed, easy to enter, easy to leave, housing of a type the private sector alone (a sector which includes charities, building societies and housing associations as well as rental firms and small landlords) can provide. To expand that pool by means both of de-regulation and financial incentives ought to be a government priority.

A programme to revive private rental housing in Britain starts at the centre with the Rents Acts, with fiscal discrimination against landlords and with Treasury rules about the way the Housing Corporation is prevented from levering building society and other private sector money into building for rent. At the heart of such a programme are the local authorities - some of which are shining examples of how, for example in the provision of rental accommodation for the elderly, private developers can be coaxed into innovative schemes. It is the local authorities which have sooner or later to accept that homelessness and under-provision can be met outside the ambit of the town halls and their authoritarian waiting lists and allocation points. Rachman remains an emotive word. But the real scandal of this decade will be if anachronistic attitudes delay or thwart private investment in our stock of housing for rent.

HOLISTIC HEALING

Two partisan legends are laid to rest by the findings of the survey of doctors' attitudes to complementary or alternative medicine which we report today. The first is that treatment outside the mainstream of what is taught in the medical schools is mere moonshine, the preserve of eccentrics and charlatans, and that patients putting themselves under the care of such practitioners are spurning the benefits of modern science for a dangerous mumbo-jumbo. If that were true, how could so many doctors be showing such an active interest? The second myth is that the profession fosters in all its practitioners a blinkered intolerance about other approaches. If that were true, how could so many doctors, etc.?

The general practitioners who were surveyed score high for open-mindedness and caution. Two thirds of them believe that alternative approaches can in some circumstances be useful, and a quarter of them have undergone such treatment themselves. Although only small minorities actually use these techniques at present, a majority would like to try, and only a minority reject outright the idea of referring patients to others for such treatment.

The doctors are interested, but

they are cautious. They are more inclined to approach alternative techniques as essentially ancillary to their art than to see them as rival sources of authority. This kind of acceptance will not be enough for many minority practitioners who insist that what they are offering is not a complementary approach, but true alternatives.

Their mistrust of conventional medicine is justified in the sense that the immense flowering of surgery and chemotherapy over the last century was achieved at a cost. Treating the body as a machine subject to mechanical malfunctions proved a very rewarding approach, up to a point. But repair-shop methods tempted doctors to lose sight of other truths - that the patient is a person, integrated and unique, and should be treated as an ally rather than an object.

As this technical prowess grows, a widening gap opens between what can be done and what should be done - and the medical profession by itself is neither trained nor willing to say how it should be bridged without joining wider society in the decision. As conventional medicine becomes more and more concerned with saving money and manpower by processing patients ever more rapidly through ever fewer beds, it is not

surprising that some doctors are looking increasingly wistfully towards procedures developed in the days when a healer possessed no drug as effective as his time.

An increasing number of doctors see that there is much that medicine can profitably absorb from unconventional therapies, and are prepared to act accordingly. This rapprochement is all to the good, but it would be wrong to imagine that the tension between orthodoxy and unorthodoxy can be fully resolved - or even should be. Doctors cannot forswear that rigour in seeking statistically demonstrable and repeatable results which has historically brought such great rewards, while many unorthodox workers are wary of being annexed by the empire of science. Some of their approaches will remain by nature more suitable for provision outside the NHS than inside it. Their labour-intensive virtues - patience, attentiveness to individuality, humility towards the mysteries of life - will always find themselves under pressure in a system where professionals' time is even more expensive than the drugs they use. The tension can be a fruitful one on both sides, so long as partisan arrogance does not blind each side to the contribution the other can make.

NO TIME TO NIBBLE

Exactly fifty years ago, Mr. Neville Chamberlain was roundly criticised by industry for producing "a Budget of Forty Winks from Sleepy Hollow". A similar choice between radical and somnolent conservatism faces Mr. Nigel Lawson. It is expected that next week he will at least propose structural changes to the taxation of both income and capital, in the interests of tax simplification and the stimulation of work and savings incentives. The canvas is a broad one, on which it will be easy to paint a number of small contradictions. That danger can only be avoided by some broad brush strokes intended to give coherence to the whole.

Mr. Lawson's stated intentions are to shift some of the burden of taxation from income to expenditure, to raise the threshold for income tax, and to clear up some of the encrusted muddles of capital taxation. Carried out bravely enough, these aims should be mutually reinforcing.

The taxation of capital is justified in that its possession confers certain advantages comparable to the receipt of income; and if the latter were taxed, the former would be distorted (and the income tax base reduced) by an accumulation of devices designed to disguise income as an increase in capital. While income tax rates have remained high, and inflation has created paper gains which outweigh the real increase in the value of personal assets, however, it has not proved possible to devise a system for taxing the taxation of either capital gains or capital transfers without riddling the two with exemptions that reduce their value as revenue-raisers to trivial levels.

To abolish either without further change in the taxation of income would merely recreate the boundary problem already mentioned.

change, moreover, income from capital will continue to enjoy an easier tax regime than income from employment, because of the rising burden of national insurance on earnings. It would be all too easy for the Chancellor to reinforce an unsatisfactory bias against earned income at a moment when his intention is to introduce a "budget for jobs".

It is therefore an essential element in the Chancellor's package to tax reforms that he should move towards the fusion of national insurance and income tax. The consequence of this would be that all income, not just that earned from employment, would bear the burden of financing national insurance benefits: it would therefore be right to follow through such a change with a reform of social security which linked benefits to genuine social need and abolished the last vestige of the much-abused "contributory principle".

Were the Chancellor to proceed so far, it would then be sensible and rational for him to tidy up the range of combined tax rates on income, with reductions at both the bottom and the top. At present, those just above the income tax threshold face a tax rate of 39 per cent, including national insurance. This falls to 30 per cent across a narrow band of income above the top of the national insurance limits, then rising by stages to 60 per cent. Were the two to be completely fused, thus raising the starting-point for national insurance and so dramatically reducing the tax burden on the lower-paid, the scale of combined tax rates would have to run from about 41 to 62 per cent to raise the same revenue. The correct adjustment would then be to cut the starting rate (which would take up a good deal of Mr. Lawson's extra revenue from spending taxes and the abolition of special tax reliefs) while simultaneously

cutting top rates (which would cost very little).

This pattern of reform would simultaneously improve the position of earners (particularly low earners) while reducing the top rates of tax on income which make it so hard to rationalize the taxation of capital. It would simplify the progression of British income tax, which at present is an unjustifiable mess. It should be accompanied by a revision of the pattern of personal tax allowances which are at present excessively generous to married couples who both work at the expense of one-earner couples stuck in the "poverty trap". It should also depend on a shift in taxation to expenditure, which would make it possible to reduce taxation of both income and capital all round.

The higher the proportion of British tax revenue raised from expenditure, the easier it is to resolve the difficulties created by the boundaries between capital and income. For if capital gains, or receipts, are taxed as soon as they are spent, there is less need to identify them separately as a distinct basis for taxation: one way for the Chancellor to move immediately in this direction would be to shift the focus of capital gains tax on to disposals.

The chief argument against a broadly-based expenditure tax in place of the present variety of value-added tax is that it would add to the living costs of the poor. But the correct way to relieve poverty is through social security and income tax, linked to provide a more coherent pattern of income support and earnings incentives. This will become possible only if the Government is prepared to be radical about both social security and spending taxes. If it nibbles away at both, it will earn the enmity of those affected without winning posterity's blessing for the courage to engage in full-blooded reform.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A tougher regime in detention

From the Minister of State for the Home Department

Sir, In his letter of March 8 the Chairman of the Howard League, Andrew Rutherford, deplores the introduction of the new regime in detention centres on March 6 on two counts.

First, he describes the new regime as explicitly punitive. If he is implying that punishments will be imposed on inmates otherwise than through the prescribed procedures for offences against discipline, or that pointless activities have been introduced, or that inmates will be treated without consideration for their welfare and needs, he is wrong. Staff will continue to adopt the professional, firm and fair approach commended in the evaluation of the experiment with tougher regimes published last July.

But if he means that the regime will be properly geared to the short sentences served at detention centres, that it will be brisk, balanced and purposive; and that it will bring young people up against the consequences of offending for which there is no alternative to a custodial sentence, then he is quite right. But I would unhesitatingly reject his view that such things are to be deplored.

Secondly, he wrongly claims that we have ignored the evaluation findings. The narrow point that conviction rates were not significantly affected by the experimental regime hardly came as a surprise.

The structured initial two-week programme, the emphasis on standard setting, the sharpening of the grade system, the way in which inmates will progress from the most basic kinds of work to less unpopular tasks - these all respond to the research evidence, as well as to management experience of running detention centres and the comments of the prison service unions.

What he loses sight of is the need to establish the most appropriate regime for all detention centres. It made good sense to apply universally the many features in the experiment which proved to be of value.

Yours faithfully,
ELTON,
Home Office,
Queen Anne's Gate, SW1,
March 11.

The Lords on TV

From the Editor of Independent Television News

Sir, The six-month experiment on televising the House of Lords has only been under way for six weeks and already you report (March 8) "a growing disillusionment" among peers about the degree of coverage so far.

There is no question of ITN's losing enthusiasm. This week, for the first time, we featured the proceedings of a select committee in a news report, in addition to the coverage of the debate on the arts. In the coming weeks Channel Four, in conjunction with ITN, has scheduled three special programmes. They include two days of live coverage and one half-hour of edited highlights.

It was always anticipated that coverage would be a gradually evolving process and the public reaction has been very positive. The question of a weekly programme is under active consideration for later.

More than four million viewers watched part of the first day's coverage on Channel Four on January 23. There is plenty of interesting coverage yet to come.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID NICHOLAS, Editor,
Independent Television News Limited,
ITN House,
48 Welles Street, W1,
March 8.

Broadcasting's future

From the Managing Director of BBC Television

Sir, May I reply to Mr Peter Anghelides (March 8) on the subject of Dr Who. The programme has not been axed. The Doctor is having a short rest and will return. Improved and revitalized, in autumn next year after eighteen months later than originally planned.

As for the suggestion that this brief rest, after 21 years, is "a publicity stunt" connected with the BBC's licence fee application, I hope your readers will accept my unequivocal assurance that there is no connection whatever between the two.

The BBC does not stoop to tactics of the kind imagined by your correspondents.

Yours sincerely,
BILL COTTON,
Managing Director,
BBC Television,
BBC Television Centre, W12,
March 11.

Causes of decline

From Mr C. R. Jones

Sir, While noting Mr Peter Kaldor's letter (March 8) it must be remembered that in spite of many apparent constraints we are still free to choose whether to be engineers or schoolmasters. I had the good fortune to follow both professions. One gave me a substantial income. In the other I experienced a tremendous sense of achievement prolonged by continued contact with former pupils.

Changing horses in mid-stream is not a new idea and dissatisfied teachers might well consider a new steed if the present one is not satisfying their needs.

Yours faithfully,
C. R. JONES,
24 Alhambra Road,
Southsea,
Hampshire,
March 9.

Why Civil Servants feel indignant

From the General Secretary of the Society of Civil and Public Servants

Sir, In your leading article of March 7 ("Uncivil, unserviceable") you attacked the proposed merger between the two largest Civil Service unions, the CPSA (Civil and Public Services Association) and the SCPS (Society of Civil and Public Servants). Your comments were a splendid example of the pompous double standards with which readers of *The Times* will be so familiar.

The Street is fond of lecturing the trade union movement about the virtues of creating a more rational union structure. So it is a bit thick when, once a trade union merger is proposed, you come out in opposition to it. Could it be that you only support trade union mergers as long as they do not strengthen the position of employees against their employer?

You attack the capacity of the Civil Service unions to "disrupt or even discontinue Government business in the name of industrial action". Those who recall your pusillanimous leader on the GCHQ affair last year will not be surprised at this, since you supported the trade union ban and merely criticized "a whiff of mismanagement" in the Government's handling of it. Could it be that you only support the freedom of Civil Servants to join a trade union as long as they do not take any action to defend their livelihood?

You talk about stoppages which "masquerade as industrial action which more often have a serious and disruptive political purpose behind them" - thus exhibiting the breathtaking ignorance of social reality which is one of the true hallmarks of a *Times* leader. For the last five and a half years it is the Government which has attacked Civil Servants' pay, jobs and civil liberties, out of its adherence to a doctrinaire and extreme political philosophy. Could it be that you only support the right of people to resist arbitrary and authoritarian government as long as it is not practised by Conservative ministers?

The most offensive part of your article was the insinuation that Civil Service trade union members might allow themselves to be "hustled" by their unions into industrial action over pay. Unchecked Fleet Street editors always cut a ridiculous figure when they pontificate about democracy in the world outside. But your comments also betray a deep contempt for the very people whose interests you pretend to have at heart.

Our members will not be "hustled" by anyone - and it is they, and they alone, who will take the final

Difference of opinion

From Dr C. T. Husbands

Sir, Your Diary's report, "Polls apart" (March 6), unjustly implies that the results of one unpublished MORI poll about Londoners' attitudes towards the GLC's abolition show that public opinion in the capital is moving in favour of this proposal. Such an interpretation is not supported by other polls on this subject.

Between October, 1983, and October, 1984, there were 10 publicly available studies, conducted by four different polling organizations, of the attitudes of Londoners on this issue. They show a remarkably consistent pattern of hostility to abolition. In none of the 10 studies does approval of the proposal reach a quarter of the sample and in five cases the fraction is less than a fifth.

After the maximization of public awareness and the consequent reduction of neutral and "Don't know" responses - something that

Marks of distinction

From Dr P. V. Jones

Sir, May I draw the attention of your readers to a consultation document from the Department of Education and Science which proposes that distinction certificates for the new GCSE examinations will only be awarded to those pupils who pass at satisfactory grades in certain specified subjects (the GCSE will shortly replace O and CSE examinations).

A distinction certificate, it is proposed, will only be awarded to those pupils who pass at the appropriate grades in (a) mathematics, (b) science, (c) English, (d) a modern language, (e) either history or geography, (f) either craft, design

Oxfam appointment

From Professor Alan Thompson

Sir, It is clear that many of us who support Oxfam may have to consider whether to transfer our help to other relief organisations ("Protest over Oxfam appointment", March 6).

To argue that Oxfam's traditions are not consistent with the appointment of a distinguished and talented former lieutenant-colonel is a truly novel interpretation of the work of a relief organisation.

Some of my best students go into the Armed Services; they are intellectually able, conscientious, concerned about good man-management and possess a keen sense of duty to the community.

The Jewish vote

From Mr John Reading

Sir, Peter Bradley ("Why Labour is losing its Jews", March 7) is quite right to point out the creeping anti-Semitism expressed on public platforms by some members of the Labour Party and to identify this as a cause of lessening support by Jewish voters for the Labour Party.

The problems of separating anti-Zionism from anti-Semitism is not a new one for non-Jews, the dispute at Sunderland. Polytechnic Students' Union having been mirrored in the mid-seventies in many students' unions up and down the country

decision in secret, workplace ballots on both this year's pay offer and the proposed merger.

Yours faithfully,
GERRY GILLMAN,
General Secretary,
Society of Civil and Public Servants,
124-30 Southwark Street, SE1,
March 8.

From the General Secretary of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation

Sir, I was very surprised at the apparent lack of understanding shown in your analysis of the Civil Service unions' pay campaign (leader, March 7) and the political objectives you say it is trying to achieve. Instead of drumming up hysteria about the dangers of so-called Communist subversives plotting for the overthrow of government, you should be asking serious and pertinent questions about the reasons why an increasing number of Civil Servants from a traditionally non-militant background are prepared to support those with extreme political views.

I would argue that the upsurge of militancy you are witnessing now is a response to the shabby, insensitive way this Government has treated its employees for the past five years. You say that "it has become fashionable, in the aftermath of the Ponting affair, for some Civil Servants and their apologists to claim that the policies and attitudes of ministers are largely to blame for the contemporary erosion in Civil Service morale".

Morale is normally but marginally affected by Civil Servants' approval or disapproval of Government policy; morale is about their relationship with their employer, the way they are treated, the respect they are given and, yes, even the amount they are paid. Time after time this Government has let its Civil Servants down.

With sweeping cuts in manpower, very often unrelated to cuts in function, the result is growing pressure of work and evidence of increasing stress amongst public sector employees (clearly shown in the results of an independent survey on higher grade tax officers recently published by my union).

It should not surprise anyone that Civil Servants are showing much greater determination to achieve success in this year's pay campaign. So far as the Inland Revenue staff are concerned a manpower campaign will follow close behind.

Yours faithfully,
TONY CHRISTOPHER,
General Secretary,
Inland Revenue Staff Federation,
Douglas Houghton House,
231 Vauxhall Bridge Road, SW1.

had occurred by April, 1984 - opposition to the abolition proposal settled down at around two-thirds of the London electorate; the median of the seven studies from March, 1984, to late October, 1984, is 66 per cent.

A poll by Marplan, conducted on October 8-9, 1984, for a BBC television programme broadcast on October 16, found 68 per cent opposed to abolition; one by Audience Selection on October 17-18, for an LWT programme on October 19, recorded a figure of 71 per cent.

Had the GLC used the slightly more restrained slogan, "Two-thirds say no" instead of "74 per cent say no", I do not think that the impact of its message would have been greatly reduced.

Yours faithfully,
C. T. HUSBANDS,
The London School of Economics and Political Science,
University of London,
Houghton Street, WC2,
March 6.

and technology, or home economics, or art and design or music, (g) and one other (the list is too long to quote).

I write to you because after a number of recent meetings in Newcastle it has become apparent that this wonderful news has not reached heads, let alone teachers and parents. The full consultation document is available from the DES, Elizabeth House, York Road, London SE1, to which responses should be made by the end of April, 1985.

Your etc,
PETER V. JONES,
The University of Newcastle Upon Tyne,
Department of Classics,
Newcastle Upon Tyne.

The vast majority of the British public hold the Armed Services in high esteem. This esteem probably reached its high point when thousands of young men and women in uniform confronted and defeated the Argentinean invasion force. There are still several million men and women alive who had no hesitation in donning uniform in the last war.

I respect the views of genuine pacifists. I hold it to be unworthy to allow Oxfam to become a cover for such views to the exclusion of the deeply held convictions of the majority of the British people.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN THOMPSON,
11 Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh.

ON THIS DAY

MARCH 13 1930

Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948) first realised the power of civil disobedience when he organized a campaign in South Africa in 1907. The famous 200 miles march resulted in Gandhi's imprisonment; he was released in 1931 in order to attend the London Round Table Conference on behalf of the Indian National Congress.

GANDHI MARCH BEGUN

"MY SACRED DUTY"

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

BOMBAY, March 12

In the early hours of a dark, cold morning, Mr. Gandhi, accompanied by a chosen band of 79 volunteers, started from his Ashram (seminary) outside Ahmedabad to-day, on the first stage of his civil disobedience march.

The Special Correspondent of the *Times* of India, describing the scene, says that at an early hour peasants were working in the fields in complete disregard of their saviour's imminent march. Yet their indifference was certainly not the fault of the volunteers, who have been scouring the countryside for support, ordering that the villages through which the procession will pass should be kept clean, and generously distributing Gujarati pamphlets. (Pamphlets apparently produced at Gujarat Vidya-pith. Mr. Gandhi's university). One pamphlet demands gifts because "one was soon to ascend the Cross like Jesus Christ", and the appeal for money has been not unheeded. The Correspondent discovered Mr. Gandhi in the densest part of the procession looking old and cold, and it was difficult to believe him equal to the strain. Behind him came a motor-lorry carrying a mass of home spun cloth, and in the rear was a horse which Mr. Gandhi later intends to ride.

In Bombay the Provincial Congress Committee and the Youth League organized demonstrations, which in their early stages passed off uneventfully, except that the band of the volunteers, unaccustomed to the Congress atmosphere played "God Save the King", which was immediately stopped. Later a large crowd of schoolboys became disorderly and broke some of the windows and four windows of the *Times* of India offices, but was dispersed after scuffles with the police.

Mr. Gandhi in today's issue of *Young India*, criticizes the Viceroy's reply to his letter.

"On Sunday noon," he writes "I asked for bread, but received stone instead". He says the Viceroy represents a nation that does not easily give in and does not easily repeat. "Extremely clever countries, it is readily flattered to physical force, and can witness with bated breath a boxing match for hours when the pugilist will not part with the million is suddenly drawn from India to reply to any argument, however convincing." "The Viceroy's reply does not surprise me. But I wonder the salt tax has to go, and many other things with it. If my letter means what it says, The reply says I contemplate a course of action which is clearly bound to involve the violation of the law and a danger to public peace. In spite of a forest of books containing rules and regulations, the only law the nation knows is the will of the British administrators, and the only public peace the nation knows is the peace of the public press. India is a vast prison house. I reiterate this law, and regard it as my sacred duty to break the monstrous monopoly of compulsory peace that is choking the nation's heart for want of a free vent."

Matrimonial motley

From Mr Duncan Robertson

Sir, On March 1 you published a fascinating list of who wore what at Princess Mary's wedding. But one cannot help wondering what eventually happened to the extraordinary collection - cloaks, coats, gowns, dresses and jacobins, toques and paradises hats, turbans with drooping ostrich plumes, green and tipped with gold; and all those animals with little black noses and beady eyes - sables (Russian or otherwise) skunk, ermine, musquash and silver fox.

Were they given to an ungrateful niece, a governess or lady's maid, a jumble sale or the Salvation Army? Are any remnants still in existence? What scope for research.

Yours faithfully,
DUNCAN ROBERTSON,
Llantysilio Hall,
Llangollen,
Clwyd,
March 7.

Tongue-tripping

From Mr Hugh Betteridge

Sir, My wife, of French extraction, is a keen student of Portfolio. This morning she asked me to let her have *The Times*, to do, as she said, her profiteering.

Alas, no profit awaited her. On the brink of her birthday I therefore sign myself.

Yours expectantly,
HUGH BETTERIDGE,
2 St Omer Ridge, Guildford, Surrey,
March 7.

Colourful attire

From Sir David Serpell

Sir, The Masters' at Augusta has its green jacket, and the Tour de France its maillot jaune. Could not - should not - be the winning of the World Cricket Championship be marked by the bestowal of white pyjamas?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SERPELL,
25 Crossparks,
Dartmouth,
Devon,
March 7.

Back-peddalling?

From Mr Francis Wilford-Smith

Sir, Your issue for Friday, March 8, was numbered 62,081. That of Saturday, the 9th, 62,082. But today, Monday, 11th, here we are back with 62,081. Is *The Times* suffering a reverse?

Yours faithfully,
FRANCIS WILFORD-SMITH,
Stanway,
Dormington,
Hereford,
March 11

March 13, 1985

SPECIAL REPORT

WORLD TV NEWS/1
by David Hewson

A routine assignment in Africa for cameraman Mohamed Amin, right, and reporter Michael Buerk, far right, turned into a startling account that told the world of Ethiopia's tragedy



Anatomy of a TV story

In April last year Mohamed Amin, a Visnews cameraman, and head of the Visnews African bureau, went to Ethiopia on a routine assignment. The footage he produced impressed the BBC, which showed interest in organizing a joint team to return to the drought-stricken country.

On their arrival in Addis Ababa the team gained permission, after 48 hours of arguing, to visit Makalle in the province of Tigre where the civil war was at its height.

The full horrors
The trio persuaded a charity, World Vision, to use its Canadian Twin Otter aircraft to fly them to Makalle, where they recorded the full horrors of the Ethiopian famine. In a week of concentrated work, they filmed the disaster, and finally convinced World Vision to fly them back to Addis

Ababa to make the news public as soon as possible. Amin, Buerk and Njunga flew to Nairobi, where the film was edited. Buerk took off for London with the tapes. He landed early on October 23, and the BBC transmitted the first pictures on its lunchtime newscast. Later that day, Amin's camera work led the news bulletins of 425 of the world's broadcasting stations, a potential audience of 470 million.



The rollercoaster on your screen

"For a brief moment at two minutes past one o'clock this morning the first television relay across the Atlantic was seen in Britain", announced *The Times* of July 11, 1962. "It was a hardly recognizable picture of a man, believed to be Mr R. R. Kappel, chairman of the board of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, made during the sixth pass of the satellite across the North Atlantic."

There was little hint in that rather snuffy report of the birth of Telstar that an explosion in the world television communications business had just taken place. The news itself may have changed little (President Kennedy in the first Telstar Press conference 13 days later announced: "The United States will not devalue the dollar") but the industry which gathers it has undergone an astonishing revolution.

Technology, both in space and on the earth, has made the global village a reality. The public, in Bridlington or Buenos Aires, Crawley or Calcutta, does not just want to see up-to-the-minute news film of Harriers dodging missiles above Goose Green. It demands it as a right.

The public of 1963 saw Telstar's grimy flickerings as a wonder of the space age; today there is a general expectation

that an interesting event anywhere in the world will be recorded by the all-seeing, all-transmitting eye. When on occasion it is not, as was the case, for instance, in the assassination of Mrs Gandhi, the news bulletins seemed strangely lacking in authenticity. The world television news explosion has substituted experience for description, some might say information for gratification, slowly and insidiously over the last two decades.

The public response was the direct result of one television news team, which succeeded in recording details of the disaster, thereby alerting the world

unthinkable to any television network of the 1950s.

Some would say that this change has replaced a distant attitude towards world affairs on the part of the public with an apathy bred by familiarity. Others would argue that it is the role of television news teams to report life - and death - as it is to the best of their ability, though it is difficult to judge how much the presence of a television news team may also shape events in addition to reporting on them.

One event of the last few months does disprove the claim that a daily diet of international horror makes the television audience more unfeeling towards their fellow citizens. The public's response to the Ethiopian famine appeal was the direct result of the work of one television news team which succeeded in recording a startling account of the Ethiopian tragedy and, through the very international nature of the modern news industry, alerting the rest of the world to it in the most direct and visual of ways.

Television news is more powerful, more free-ranging, and more active than ever, through agencies such as UPI/TN and Visnews, channels like Cable News Network and the busy in-house news crews of the international television organizations themselves.



What of the future? The late Douglas Muggidge, then managing director of the BBC's External Broadcasting Services, made an interesting bid for a television version of the BBC's World Service a little over a year ago. It would be, said Mr Muggidge, an international news service, initially to North

America and Europe. "We need to act quickly," Mr Muggidge said. "Faith, vision and money will be required. But there is little time to lose if we are to remain pre-eminent in world broadcasting."

Since he made that speech, faith, vision and money have proved decidedly lacking. British broadcasting organizations appear to have enough internal problems of their own without worrying about an international service. And in the diplomatic sphere there are pressing negotiating difficulties which threaten to halt the spread of outlets for world news.

with technology. In the United States, the Reagan administration has authorized the Federal Communications Commission to consider satellite licences for private operators. Such is the speed of advance of satellite technology that it is already clear that American systems could soon have a footprint - or potential reception area - over most of Western Europe, Central America and the Caribbean.

The vast broadening of the reception areas of all television stations, not just those concerned with news, causes immense political problems. The Third World lobby for a new information order maintains that every country has the right to prevent foreign television stations being received by their citizens (though how, in practice, this could be enforced, except by jamming, is a matter of some speculation).

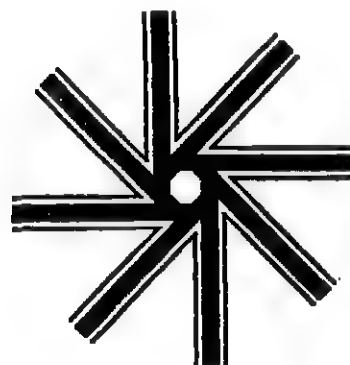
At the same time, the EEC has ruled that the provisions of the Treaty of Rome covering commercial goods and services include social and cultural services and, by extension, television. Consequently, the EEC forbids any restriction on the free transmission of radio and television broadcasts from one community to another.

from countries throughout the Continent.

The provision of strong news coverage is a key to any company wishing to have an important role in that enormous growth. Many companies have realized that this will lead to a huge rise in demand for television news. But the economics of news-gathering have, so far, prevented any one single contender, apart from Ted Turner's Cable News Network, entering the market on a large scale. The British film company Goldcrest, which toyed with the idea for a while, employed the former editor of *The Times*, Mr Harold Evans to look at the idea, but decided that the capital investment was too high.

For the moment, world news will continue to be dominated by the familiar names which helped pioneer the skill of news gathering - such as Reuters, the BBC, ITN, and the American

Whatever the great changes which have gripped the industry over the past decade, they are as nothing compared with the new-style broadcasting that is on the way networks. Whether their hold is punctured or not, one thing is predictable, whatever the sweeping changes which have gripped the television news industry over the past decade, they are as nothing compared with the rollercoaster ride of transnational broadcasting to come. A surfeit of television is on the way - and that means a surfeit of news, good, bad and indifferent.



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WORLD TV NEWS/2

(SPECIAL REPORT)

All the news that's fit to watch, for 24 hours a day

Ted Turner is broadcasting's saviour or the medium's *bête noire*, depending on where one stands. His Cable News Network began as a modest station in his native Atlanta, Ga., US and has now spread to embrace more than 17 million subscribers.

While many established broadcasters favour keeping television in a loosely regulated market, in which the existing entrants are protected from all-out competition, Turner is an unabashed entrepreneur, preaching free-market policies wherever he goes.

The financial rewards have yet to make CNN a moneyspinner for Turner, but the network's global growth has been nothing short of astonishing. Its 24-hour news channel has broken the grasp of the main US networks on American cable systems, and CNN now boasts bureaux in Washington, New York, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles and San Francisco, with overseas offices in Rome, London, Tokyo, Jerusalem, Cairo and Peking, employing a news-gathering staff of more than 600.

Last month CNN signed a deal with deal with British Telecom's international section to transmit the news service by satellite to Britain. Its output



From satellite to sitting room: A Polish newscast of 1982 and the Royal Wedding, as shown on the Cable News Network by Ted Turner (right)

will be available to the BBC and ITV companies, but it is thought to be the growing cable television industry which will look most closely at CNN's offerings.

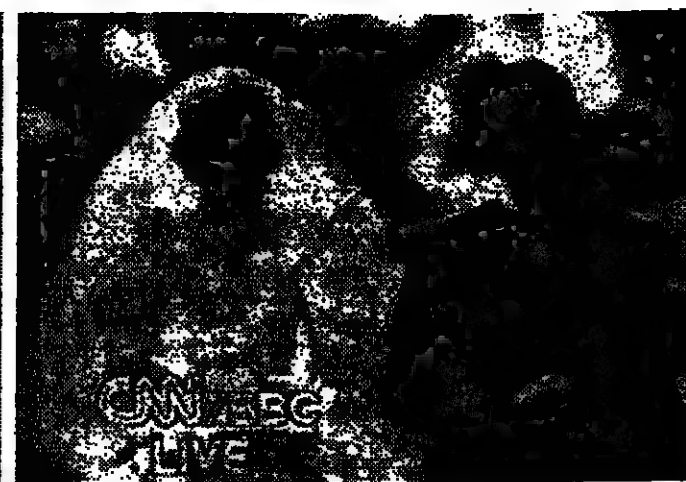
News is expensive to produce, so expensive that the British cable industry cannot finance its own news network, and that may make CNN an attractive buy.

A 24-hour slick news operation such as CNN could give new cable companies one of the things they desperately need to win subscribers - a service

which is quite unlike anything offered by today's terrestrial broadcasters.

The fact that CNN is also a highly regarded news network in its own right, and one which disproves the general myth that all American television is bad, would be an added bonus for viewers.

In the long term, Turner is also thinking about extending to Britain a "lifestyle" service of light news items, entertainment features and gossip pieces, a mix which sounds very much like TV-am, again beamed



directly by satellite from America with the cable network very much in mind.

Most industry observers believe Turner will be the first to bring an all-news channel to British television, though the BBC, Visnews and ITN have toyed with the idea too. The one independent satellite channel now serving British cable networks, Sky, which is owned by News International, is principally entertainment-led.

CNN is an attractive service with an international outlook which does not rule out co-

operation with national broadcasters, who regard Turner's free market ideals with horror.

During the Falklands war, CNN opened a link with ITN's *News at Ten* and ran British bulletins on the campaign during peak time on American television, a brilliant move which lent a breadth of coverage to US newscasts which could not be equalled in Britain.

But, unlike UPITN and Visnews, CNN is an organization which is primarily designed to serve its own television

channel, and is not, in the conventional sense, a news agency.

Its international success will depend, to an extent, on how quickly broadcasting systems are deregulated, and whether national networks manage to set up rival operations in time to beat Turner to the screen.

ITN's editor David Nicholas said last year: "As certain as the sun rises in the east, somebody is going to do 24-hour news. The most likely person to do it is Ted Turner."



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Where you can watch a Tsar being crowned

Visnews is in the throes of a rapid programme of expansion intended to put it at the forefront of the world television news revolution. Competition, most notably with its arch rival, UPITN, is intense, and becomes more so almost daily.

The company came into existence as a profit-bearing trust in 1957 bearing the long-winded title of the British Commonwealth International News Film Agency. Today there is no disguising the fact that it is a mirror image to UPITN.

While its rival came out of a merger of ITN and the American news agency UPI, the BBC holds a third of the Visnews shareholding. Reuters is a further third, and the rest are split between Canadian, New Zealand and Australian broadcast-

ing institutions.

The BBC has three seats on the Visnews board, including that of the chairman, Paul Hughes. The corporation's influential director of resources, Michael Checkland, and its assistant director-general, Alan Protheroe, are among the directors.

The company's international television news service, which is the oldest part of the organization, supplies a daily service of news and sport to 425 broadcasters throughout the world, distributed from London by satellite, videocassette or the European network.

The news section is designed to supply an unbiased and impartial service to all its subscribers, each of which receives up to 140 minutes of news a week. Most are tightly edited news items about 90 seconds long, but longer background items are also despatched, along with sporting events and light material.

The news service is run from London, with regional coverage offices in Athens, Bangkok, Beirut, Brussels, Cairo, Frankfurt, Hongkong, Jerusalem, Johannesburg, Nairobi, New Delhi, New York, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, Rome, Singapore, Sydney, Tel Aviv and Tokyo, a network involving about 400 cameramen. All are linked to a computerized messaging system to ensure that they receive instant notice of news developments as they happen.

The ability to offer instant reaction to any breaking news story is clearly the key to an



Visnews managing director Brian Quinn: Forging stronger links with America

agency's success, but Visnews has also extended into news-related areas to the extent that it now claims to be the world's biggest single television news agency.

It holds an extensive library of archive material amounting to 30 million feet of film and video tape. The earliest item is film of the coronation of Tsar Nicholas II of Russia and contemporary events from the agency's coverage add 15,000 stories to the collection each year. The agency also holds a large collection of stills of political figures and cities, which it sells to broadcasters, publishers and advertising agencies.

The company runs its own video production and satellite distribution services and offers television production facilities, from film processing to the conversion of videotape to different standards.

There is an active television training school which attracts students from all over the world. The courses offer a wide range of studies, from a television news curriculum which brings students into a fully equipped simulated newsroom to sessions designed to teach established documentary

makers the latest production techniques. Prices range from £2,000 a person for a four week course in production and cable-television operation to £6,000 for a two-month course on programme-making for senior staff.

The company is also going into satellite operation, a move which follows from the United States government's decision to deregulate the satellite business in the US. That opened the way for BrightStar, a partnership between Visnews, British Telecom International and Western Union, which claims to be the largest transatlantic satellite carrier of television programming less than 18 months after it began operations.

BrightStar uses two satellites, Intelsat across the Atlantic and Westar over north America, to provide a service which can reach throughout the US and Europe. A dedicated microwave link can take a signal from Visnews in London to Goochville, where it is transmitted to Intelsat. It is then received in Massachusetts and relayed to Westar which can transmit it throughout the US. A permanent two-way link is in operation.

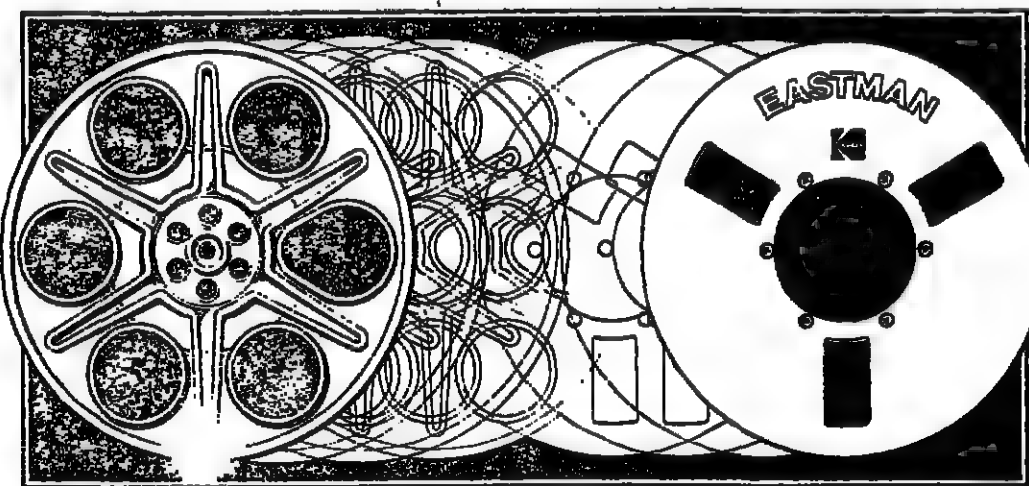
ation from New York and a dedicated access point is established in Washington.

BrightStar has become sufficiently established to attract customers from the natural rivals of the constituent parts of Visnews. Ted Turner's Cable News Network has used it, as has ITN, Channel 4 and several ITV companies. Though competition may be important to all television news companies, the very expense of their globe-trotting business can mean that a level of co-operation works in everyone's favour.

The managing director of Visnews, Brian Quinn, estimates that traditional news agency work accounts for 65 per cent of the company's turnover, and is proud of the fact that the organization has not had to ask its shareholders for additional investment for 14 years.

The next logical step for Visnews is the entrance into running its own news channel. The pilot tapes already exist in the company's west London base. The idea is to produce a continuous news programme, principally for cable stations, which will offer a recycling round of items with headlines on the hour.

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First on the scene at the Libyan embassy siege

UPITN has more than 150 clients in 70 different countries. They range from major stations such as Cable News Network to small national networks.

UPITN boasts that it supplies every television station in Western and Eastern Europe, except the BBC.

The agency's biggest recent scoop was dramatic film of the Libyan embassy shooting in London in April last year. It had been hired to provide coverage of what was expected to be a routine demonstration outside the embassy. The machine-gunning of the crowd and the death of a British policewoman unexpectedly gave UPITN some of the most dramatic exclusive television coverage of the year.

It also became involved in a legal suit with Visnews, which has now been settled, over some footage of the incident which found its way into the BBC's hands.

UPITN's president, Kenneth Coyte, is a veteran television newsmen who now heads a fast-changing empire. The company is looking for new international partners, with the ultimate aim of having shareholders in every continent.

In five years' time, Mr Coyte predicts, the channel will have travelling news crews equipped with their own satellite dishes able to access telecommunications systems from anywhere in the world. UPITN is also interested in producing its own programmes for cable and satellite channels.

On a sadder note, Mr Coyte reflects that the hazards of news-gathering are also growing. The company has had three fatalities in the past two years,

and two members of staff so badly injured that they had to give up work. In the previous decade they did not lose a man.

Mr Coyte says: "The stories have become more violent and the demarcation line between the warring parties has become more blurred. News has become like sport - no one is interested in it unless they can see it as it happens."

"Unfortunately, we are now used to seeing people shot before our very eyes."

The agency was formed in 1967 from a merger between the television news services of United Press International and Independent Television News.

UPI had been involved in television news since 1952, and ITN was formed with the introduction of commercial television into Britain in 1956.

An important step forward for the company came in 1975 when it signed an agreement with the American network ABC which gave it access to ABC coverage. The company took a stake in UPITN in 1982, followed in the same year by Channel-9 of Australia.

UPI experienced financial difficulties with its news agency operations during the early 1980s and sold its stake in the company in 1983, although it still supplies the company with basic services. UPITN is expected soon to announce a change of corporate name.

The company runs large news centres in New York and London and has a total of 14 bureaux around the world employing a total of 140 permanent staff and a network of 400 freelancers.



Veteran: Ken Coyte

small cam
big picture

Here i
the new

صكرا من الامال

SPECIAL REPORT

WORLD TV NEWS/3

The small camera that brings the big picture back home

Technology dictates the path of television news today almost as much as politics and shifts of viewing patterns.

There is scarcely an aspect of television production which has not been revolutionized by new broadcasting techniques, most of which are taken for granted by a public ever-hungry for better pictures, delivered more swiftly.

The goal of television equipment companies, and broadcasting contractors themselves, has been to deliver signals more efficiently and to shrink technical equipment to a size which can take the television camera into situations where it has never been. The advances made in both areas have far surpassed the predictions of even the most technology-conscious television executive of a decade ago.

As far as the delivery of television pictures is concerned, the principal advance has been in the growth distribution by satellite. Most major cities now boast facilities to enable travelling camera crews access to a satellite network and editing facilities.

Consequently a complete news item can be prepared from electronic videotape and transmitted in its complete form or, if time is of the essence, simply dispatched in its unedited state for final preparation at the home studio.

National television news services have their own peak periods, allowing the differences in time zones to stagger satellite demand during the day. So crews from the UK and Australia, for example, need not necessarily be competing for the same satellite for exclusive material.

In addition to providing a transmission service for exclusive material shot by roving crews from individual network companies, the large television news agencies also offer their wares through satellite links. This busy traffic in satellite television is responsible for the up-to-the-minute international flavour of today's newscasts, but it represents only a small area of the flowering of technological developments within the world news industry.

The ability to obtain good news pictures is as important as the facility to speed them back to base as soon as possible. Developments in filming techniques centre on the emergence of what the industry knows universally as PSCs - portable single cameras, remarkably small cameras which herald a new revolution as important as the switch from film to videotape itself.

When news cameras moved from conventional film to video technology they gained much in time - since video film does not

require developing - but lost something in picture quality. Conventional video has a lifeless character and lack of depth which no amount of editing can rectify. This is principally because conventional video cameras require separate video tape recorders.

A picture is shot through a conventional lens and then must be coded and decoded as electronic signals to be sent down a wire into the video tape recorder. Any coding or decoding will degrade the signal.

PSCs overcome this problem by fitting the recorder into the camera itself, doing away with the need for coding the signal before it reaches the tape. The result offers two great advances for television news - pictures which are, at the least, equivalent to the quality of 16mm conventional film, and the shrinking of a bulky camera and recorder into one compact unit which can be used by one man.

PSC technology is still in its early days, but there is little doubt that it will play an important part in how the world's news is covered, offering the cameraman more physical and technical freedom than past video equipment. Its potential to cut the size of a television crew needed for location work has placed technology in conflict with a number of broadcasting unions, where PSCs have been the source of several disputes.

Ironically, though there are few agreements to use PSCs on news shoots in Britain, the training school at Visnews offers students the chance to learn how to use one of the most popular PSC cameras, the Sony Betacam, an opportunity which is likely to appeal to the many foreign television networks who are now turning to PSCs for their news, and sometimes drama output.

News production has also been greatly affected by the invention of sophisticated computer graphics techniques. These range from mixing machines, which can handle several images instantaneously, to computers which can generate a variety of graphs from a set of raw statistics. Even the simplest of news techniques - the still photograph - has been affected. Many news organizations now use computer memory banks to store images of familiar figures, doing away with the need for a conventional photographic image altogether.

A profile of

Mohamed Amin, whose pictures of hungry Ethiopia moved the world and won him a prize

News cameramen rarely make the headlines but are a crucial link in the world news film machine which feeds the insatiable international appetite for dramatic pictures the instant they occur.

The job is hard, occasionally dangerous, and rarely offers public plaudits. One recent exception was the award of a prize by the Royal Television Society to Mohamed Amin, the head of the Africa Bureau of Visnews, to mark his work on the Ethiopian famine with BBC reporter Michael Buerk.

Amin, aged 42 and born in Kenya, runs his own agency, Camerapix, from Nairobi, and is known to picture newsmen throughout the world. He was the son of a poor East African railway worker and joined a local newspaper in Dar es Salaam as a photographer from school. At the age of 17 he went into business with Camerapix, supplying stills to local and foreign newspapers.

Amin's break into television came through his contacts with African independence movements who tipped him off about the escape of two white South Africans from a prison in South Africa. Amin had no idea how to use a cine camera, but he persuaded a friend to lend him a wind-up Bolex, loaded it and filmed the fugitives arriving in Tanzania. He sold the results internationally.

In 1964 he had his first world scoop. A contact tipped him off about plans for a revolt in Zanzibar. Amin went to the island in advance and hired a dhow to get his film of the revolt to the mainland. Troops arrested him while filming the evacuation of British soldiers.

The authorities put him in solitary confinement for 27 days when he returned two years later, even though he had obtained exclusive film of a secret Soviet military camp.

Amin's release was secured only through the personal intervention of President Nyerere of Tanzania, but part of the deal was his exclusion from Dar es Salaam. Amin was forced to return to Nairobi.

His first major award came in 1969 for his film on the



A focus on famine

assassination of the Kenyan politician Tom Mboya, during which he accompanied the fatally wounded man to Nairobi Hospital.

Like many news cameramen, Amin's interests spread well beyond the production of news film for the world's television stations. He has been involved in documentaries for the BBC and CBS, and written 18 books covering wildlife, travel and biography.

However, the Ethiopian famine has now led to one project dominating Amin's present work. With his frequent collaborators, Mohinder Dhillion and John Eames, he is working on a full-length television documentary on the famine across more than twenty African countries to be called *African Calvary*, echoing a phrase used by Mother Theresa during an interview recorded in Ethiopia.

All of the money earned from television sales of the feature will go to famine relief campaigns. The former West German leader, Willy Brandt, the Pope, and Kenneth Kaunda are among those who will appear in the documentary, which has been filmed by two separate crews, since November.

"We wanted to use people western viewers can identify with, in conjunction with our actual coverage of the tragedy in Africa," Amin said. "We want to sustain international fund-raising and concern, and we want people to go on being appalled."

"This isn't just one country that's starving to death. It's an

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The Times will be looking at Cable and Satellite Television in a Special Report to be published on Friday, April 12, 1985.

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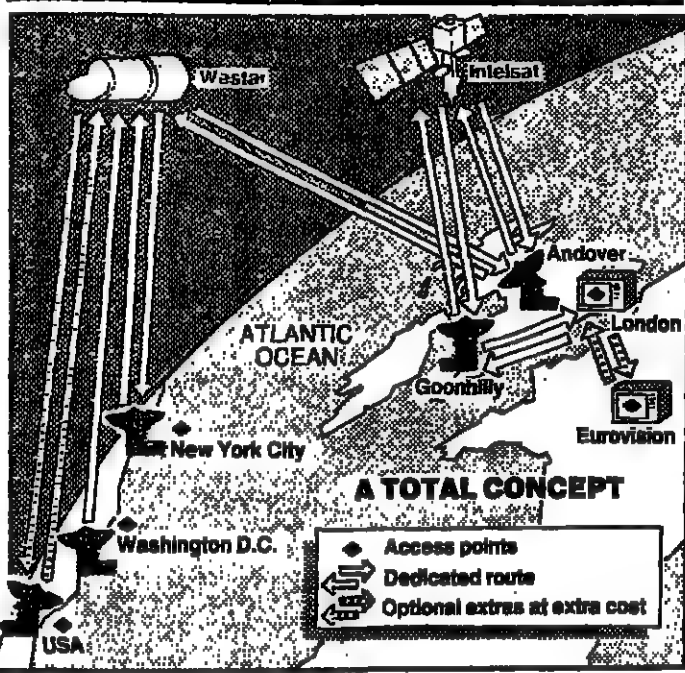
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SNELL & WILCOX



The busiest corridor of satellite television traffic in the world is between Europe and North America, and the BrightStar system, in which Visnews is a partner, is the most extensive transatlantic television link.

The system has an exclusive two-way link between London and New York. Signals travel from New York to the Wester satellite, come to ground in Andover, Massachusetts, and are retransmitted to Intelsat for the Atlantic crossing. They come down in Goonhilly and are transmitted to London.

Here an optional two-way link is available into the Eurovision system. BrightStar also has an exclusive link from Washington into Wester, transmission only, and can arrange for two-way transmissions to be broadcast into the system from other ground stations in America.

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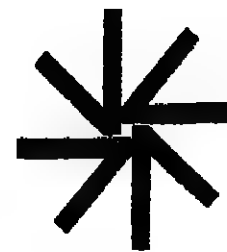
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| 11.988 | 12.2 |
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| 1970 | 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | 1975 | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 | 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 | 2031 | 2032 | 2033 | 2034 | 2035 | 2036 | 2037 | 2038 | 2039 | 2040 | 2041 | 2042 | 2043 | 2044 | 2045 | 2046 | 2047 | 2048 | 2049 | 2050 | 2051 | 2052 | 2053 | 2054 | 2055 | 2056 | 2057 | 2058 | 2059 | 2060 | 2061 | 2062 | 2063 | 2064 | 2065 | 2066 | 2067 | 2068 | 2069 | 2070 | 2071 | 2072 | 2073 | 2074 | 2075 | 2076 | 2077 | 2078 | 2079 | 2080 | 2081 | 2082 | 2083 | 2084 | 2085 | 2086 | 2087 | 2088 | 2089 | 2090 | 2091 | 2092 | 2093 | 2094 | 2095 | 2096 | 2097 | 2098 | 2099 | 2100 | 2101 | 2102 | 2103 | 2104 | 2105 | 2106 | 2107 | 2108 | 2109 | 2110 | 2111 | 2112 | 2113 | 2114 | 2115 | 2116 | 2117 | 2118 | 2119 | 2120 | 2121 | 2122 | 2123 | 2124 | 2125 | 2126 | 2127 | 2128 | 2129 | 2130 | 2131 | 2132 | 2133 | 2134 | 2135 | 2136 | 2137 | 2138 | 2139 | 2140 | 2141 | 2142 | 2143 | 2144 | 2145 | 2146 | 2147 | 2148 | 2149 | 2150 | 2151 | 2152 | 2153 | 2154 | 2155 | 2156 | 2157 | 2158 | 2159 | 2160 | 2161 | 2162 | 2163 | 2164 | 2165 | 2166 | 2167 | 2168 | 2169 | 2170 | 2171 | 2172 | 2173 | 2174 | 2175 | 2176 | 2177 | 2178 | 2179 | 2180 | 2181 | 2182 | 2183 | 2184 | 2185 | 2186 | 2187 | 2188 | 2189 | 2190 | 2191 | 2192 | 2193 | 2194 | 2195 | 2196 | 2197 | 2198 | 2199 | 2200 | 2201 | 2202 | 2203 | 2204 | 2205 | 2206 | 2207 | 2208 | 2209 | 2210 | 2211 | 2212 | 2213 | 2214 | 2215 | 2216 | 2217 | 2218 | 2219 | 2220 | 2221 | 2222 | 2223 | 2224 | 2225 | 2226 | 2227 | 2228 | 2229 | 2230 | 2231 | 2232 | 2233 | 2234 | 2235 | 2236 | 2237 | 2238 | 2239 | 2240 | 2241 | 2242 | 2243 | 2244 | 2245 | 2246 | 2247 | 2248 | 2249 | 2250 | 2251 | 2252 | 2253 | 2254 | 2255 | 2256 | 2257 | 2258 | 2259 | 2260 | 2261 | 2262 | 2263 | 2264 | 2265 | 2266 | 2267 | 2268 | 2269 | 2270 | 2271 | 2272 | 2273 | 2274 | 2275 | 2276 | 2277 | 2278 | 2279 | 2280 | 2281 | 2282 | 2283 | 2284 | 2285 | 2286 | 2287 | 2288 | 2289 | 2290 | 2291 | 2292 | 2293 | 2294 | 2295 | 2296 | 2297 | 2298 | 2299 | 2300 | 2301 | 2302 | 2303 | 2304 | 2305 | 2306 | 2307 | 2308 | 2309 | 2310 | 2311 | 2312 | 2313 | 2314 | 2315 | 2316 | 2317 | 2318 | 2319 | 2320 | 2321 | 2322 | 2323 | 2324 | 2325 | 2326 | 2327 | 2328 | 2329 | 2330 | 2331 | 2332 | 2333 | 2334 | 2335 | 2336 | 2337 | 2338 | 2339 | 2340 | 2341 | 2342 | 2343 | 2344 | 2345 | 2346 | 2347 | 2348 | 2349 | 2350 | 2351 | 2352 | 2353 | 2354 | 2355 | 2356 | 2357 | 2358 | 2359 | 2360 | 2361 | 2362 | 2363 | 2364 | 2365 | 2366 | 2367 | 2368 | 2369 | 2370 | 2371 | 2372 | 2373 | 2374 | 2375 | 2376 | 2377 | 2378 | 2379 | 2380 | 2381 | 2382 | 2383 | 2384 | 2385 | 2386 | 2387 | 2388 | 2389 | 2390 | 2391 | 2392 | 2393 | 2394 | 2395 | 2396 | 2397 | 2398 | 2399 | 2400 | 2401 | 2402 | 2403 | 2404 | 2405 | 2406 | 2407 | 2408 | 2409 | 2410 | 2411 | 2412 | 2413 | 2414 | 2415 | 2416 | 2417 | 2418 | 2419 | 2420 | 2421 | 2422 | 2423 | 2424 | 2425 | 2426 | 2427 | 2428 | 2429 | 2430 | 2431 | 2432 | 2433 | 2434 | 2435 | 2436 | 2437 | 2438 | 2439 | 2440 | 2441 | 2442 | 2443 | 2444 | 2445 | 2446 | 2447 | 2448 | 2449 | 2450 | 2451 | 2452 | 2453 | 2454 | 2455 | 2456 | 2457 | 2458 | 2459 | 2460 | 2461 | 2462 | 2463 | 2464 | 2465 | 2466 | 2467 | 2468 | 2469 | 2470 | 2471 | 2472 | 2473 | 2474 | 2475 | 2476 | 2477 | 2478 | 2479 | 2480 | 2481 | 2482 | 2483 | 2484 | 2485 | 2486 | 2487 | 2488 | 2489 | 2490 | 2491 | 2492 | 2493 | 2494 | 2495 | 2496 | 2497 | 2498 | 2499 | 2500 | 2501 | 2502 | 2503 | 2504 | 2505 | 2506 | 2507 | 2508 | 2509 | 2510 | 2511 | 2512 | 2513 | 2514 | 2515 | 2516 | 2517 | 2518 | 2519 | 2520 | 2521 | 2522 | 2523 | 2524 | 2525 | 2526 | 2527 | 2528 | 2529 | 2530 | 2531 | 2532 | 2533 | 2534 | 2535 | 2536 | 2537 | 2538 | 2539 | 2540 | 2541 | 2542 | 2543 | 2544 | 2545 | 2546 | 2547 | 2548 | 2549 | 2550 | 2551 | 2552 | 2553 | 2554 | 2555 | 2556 | 2557 | 2558 | 2559 | 2560 | 2561 | 2562 | 2563 | 2564 | 2565 | 2566 | 2567 | 2568 | 2569 | 2570 | 2571 | 2572 | 2573 | 2574 | 2575 | 2576 | 2577 | 2578 | 2579 | 2580 | 2581 | 2582 | 2583 | 2584 | 2585 | 2586 | 2587 | 2588 | 2589 | 2590 | 2591 | 2592 | 2593 | 2594 | 2595 | 2596 | 2597 | 2598 | 2599 | 2600 | 2601 | 2602 | 2603 | 2604 | 2605 | 2606 | 2607 | 2608 | 2609 | 2610 | 2611 | 2612 | 2613 | 2614 | 2615 | 2616 | 2617 | 2618 | 2619 | 2620 | 2621 | 2622 | 2623 | 2624 | 2625 | 2626 | 2627 | 2628 | 2629 | 2630 | 2631 | 2632 | 2633 | 2634 | 2635 | 2636 | 2637 | 2638 | 2639 | 2640 | 2641 | 2642 | 2643 | 2644 | 2645 | 2646 | 2647 | 2648 | 2649 | 2650 | 2651 | 2652 | 2653 | 2654 | 2655 | 2656 | 2657 | 2658 | 2659 | 2660 | 2661 | 2662 | 2663 | 2664 | 2665 | 2666 | 2667 | 2668 | 2669 | 2670 | 2671 | 2672 | 2673 | 2674 | 2675 | 2676 | 2677 | 2678 | 2679 | 2680 | 2681 | 2682 | 2683 | 2684 | 2685 | 2686 | 2687 | 2688 | 2689 | 2690 | 2691 | 2692 | 2693 | 2694 | 2695 | 2696 | 2697 | 2698 | 2699 | 2700 | 2701 | 2702 | 2703 | 2704 | 2705 | 2706 | 2707 | 2708 | 2709 | 2710 | 2711 | 2712 | 2713 | 2714 | 2715 | 2716 | 2717 | 2718 | 2719 | 2720 | 2721 | 2722 | 2723 | 2724 | 2725 | 2726 | 2727 | 2728 | 2729 | 2730 | 2731 | 2732 | 2733 | 2734 | 2735 | 2736 | 2737 | 2738 | 2739 | 2740 | 2741 | 2742 | 2743 | 2744 | 2745 | 2746 | 2747 | 2748 | 2749 | 2750 | 2751 | 2752 | 2753 | 2754 | 2755 | 2756 | 2757 | 2758 | 2759 | 2760 | 2761 | 2762 | 2763 | 2764 | 2765 | 2766 | 2767 | 2768 | 2769 | 2770 | 2771 | 2772 | 2773 | 2774 | 2775 | 2776 | 2777 | 2778 | 2779 | 2780 | 2781 | 2782 | 2783 | 2784 | 2785 | 2786 | 2787 | 2788 | 2789 | 2790 | 2791 | 2792 | 2793 | 2794 | 2795 | 2796 | 2797 | 2798 | 2799 | 2800 | 2801 | 2802 | 2803 | 2804 | 2805 | 2806 | 2807 | 2808 | 2809 | 2810 | 2811 | 2812 | 2813 | 2814 | 2815 | 2816 | 2817 | 2818 | 2819 | 2820 | 2821 | 2822 | 2823 | 2824 | 2825 | 2826 | 2827 | 2828 | 2829 | 2830 | 2831 | 2832 | 2833 | 2834 | 2835 | 2836 | 2837 | 2838 | 2839 | 2840 | 2841 | 2842 | 2843 | 2844 | 2845 | 2846 | 2847 | 2848 | 2849 | 2850 | 2851 | 2852 | 2853 | 2854 | 2855 | 2856 | 2857 | 2858 | 2859 | 2860 | 2861 | 2862 | 2863 | 2864 | 2865 | 2866 | 2867 | 2868 | 2869 | 2870 | 2871 | 2872 | 2873 | 2874 | 2875 | 2876 | 2877 | 2878 | 2879 | 2880 | 2881 | 2882 | 2883 | 2884 | 2885 | 2886 | 2887 | 2888 | 2889 | 2890 | 2891 | 2892 | 2893 | 2894 | 2895 | 2896 | 2897 | 2898 | 2899 | 2900 | 2901 | 2902 | 2903 | 2904 | 2905 | 2906 | 2907 | 2908 | 2909 | 2910 | 2911 | 2912 | 2913 | 2914 | 2915 | 2916 | 2917 | 2918 | 2919 | 2920 | 2921 | 2922 | 2923 | 2924 | 2925 | 2926 | 2927 | 2928 | 2929 | 2930 | 2931 | 2932 | 2933 | 2934 | 2935 | 2936 | 2937 | 2938 | 2939 | 2940 | 2941 | 2942 | 2943 | 2944 | 2945 | 2946 | 2947 | 2948 | 2949 | 2950 | 2951 | 2952 | 2953 | 2954 | 2955 | 2956 | 2957 | 2958 | 2959 | 2960 | 2961 | 2962 | 2963 | 2964 | 2965 | 2966 | 2967 | 2968 | 2969 | 2970 | 2971 | 2972 | 2973 | 2974 | 2975 | 2976 | 2977 | 2978 | 2979 | 2980 | 2981 | 2982 | 2983 | 2984 | 2985 | 2986 | 2987 | 2988 | 2989 | 2990 | 2991 | 2992 | 2993 | 2994 | 2995 | 2996 | 2997 | 2998 | 2999 | 3000 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----|------|-----|--------|------|
| 11% | 80% | 2000 | 87% | 11,300 | 11.3 |
| 14% | 77% | 1998 | 81% | 8,118 | 10.1 |
| 16% | 74% | 1996 | 74% | 12,700 | 11.5 |
| 19% | 71% | 1994 | 67% | 11,200 | 11.2 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------|-----|-------|---------|---------|------|---------|--------|------|
| 1975 | 84% | Black | 12 1/2% | 1980 | 108% | ● - 1/2 | 12.772 | 11.7 |
| 1975 | 84% | Tree | 8 1/2% | 1987-88 | 91% | - 1/2 | 9.230 | 10.5 |

| | | | | | |
|--|----------|-----|------|--------|------|
| | Trenas | 10% | 1987 | 10,600 | 11.5 |
| | Trenas | 10% | 1987 | 10,600 | 11.5 |
| | Trenas G | 10% | 1987 | 11,000 | 11.5 |

| | | | | | | |
|------|-------|------|------|------|--------|-------|
| 100% | Trans | 197% | 1983 | 114% | 12,698 | 11.8% |
| 100% | Trans | 147% | 1994 | 118% | 12,698 | 11.7% |
| 100% | Busch | 187% | 1984 | 119% | 12,407 | 11.8% |

| | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|--------|------|
| 100% | Each | 107% | 1995 | 60% | 11,103 | 11.5 |
| 100% | Tree | 127% | 1995 | 110% | 11,957 | 11.6 |
| 100% | Tree | 140% | 1995 | 114% | 12,403 | 11.8 |

| | | | | |
|-----|-------|----------|--------|------|
| 10% | Each | 10% 1987 | 11,135 | 71.3 |
| 7% | Trees | 8% 1987 | 10,344 | 11.0 |
| 17% | Each | 10% 1987 | 12,686 | 11.8 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|------|-------|-----------|-----|--------|------|
| 4 | 100% | Each | 12%, 1988 | 107 | 11.982 | 11.4 |
| 7 | 84 | Trash | 8%, 1988 | 90 | 10.827 | 11.0 |
| 9 | 100% | Each | 12%, 1988 | 108 | 11.577 | 11.4 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|----|------|-------|-----|---------|------|------|--------|------|
| 1% | 100% | Trans | 13% | 2000 | 114 | -1/2 | 11,816 | 11.3 |
| 1% | 1114 | Trans | 14% | 1898-OT | 120% | -1/2 | 12,057 | 11.5 |


| | | | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|---------|------|--------|-------|
| 100% | Trans | 11.9% | 2001-04 | 103% | 11,264 | 10.9% |
| 43% | Fund | 3.1% | 1999-04 | 48% | 7,244 | 8.3% |
| 94% | Exch | 10.7% | 2005 | 100% | 10,590 | 10.5% |
| 102% | Trans | 12.4% | 2003-05 | 116% | 11,132 | 10.9% |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|
| 5% | 1988-91 | 5% | 2008-12 | 5% | 2008-12 | 5% | 2008-12 |
| 7% | 1992-95 | 7% | 2012-15 | 7% | 2012-15 | 7% | 2012-15 |
| 10% | 1996-97 | 10% | 2016-17 | 10% | 2016-17 | 10% | 2016-17 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|--------|-----|-----|------|--------|--------|
| 45% | WFLA | 37% | 41% | ● .. | 5,347 | 5,347 |
| 27% | News | 3% | 25% | ● .. | 10,503 | 10,503 |
| 27% | Comets | 21% | 24 | ● -1 | 10,345 | 10,481 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----------|--------|------|---------|---------|-------|------|
| 98 1/2 | Treas. H. | 3% | 1989 | 110 1/2 | ● - 1/2 | 2.140 | 4.16 |
| 86 | Treas. H. | 2 1/2% | 1990 | 97 1/2 | ● - 1/2 | 2.171 | 3.56 |
| 98 1/2 | Treas. H. | 2% | 1986 | 114 1/4 | ● | 2.227 | 3.33 |
| 98 1/2 | Treas. H. | 2 1/2% | 1990 | 103 1/2 | ● | 2.262 | 3.23 |

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------|-----------|-------------------|------|-------------------|-----------------|-------|------|
| 97 $\frac{1}{2}$ | Treas. B. | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ % | 2011 | 107 $\frac{1}{2}$ | - $\frac{1}{2}$ | 2,779 | 3.05 |
| 97 $\frac{1}{2}$ | Treas. B. | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ % | 2013 | 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ | - | 2,779 | 3.07 |
| 97 $\frac{1}{2}$ | Treas. B. | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ % | 2016 | 98 $\frac{1}{2}$ | - $\frac{1}{2}$ | 2,808 | 3.07 |
| 97 $\frac{1}{2}$ | Treas. B. | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ % | 2020 | 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ | - | 2,785 | 3.05 |



| | | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|-----|-----|------|-----|------|
| 138 | Allied-Lyons | 187 | +3 | 10.0 | 6.6 | 10.0 |
| 300 | Bass | 534 | +15 | 18.4 | 3.5 | 13.0 |
| 130 | Bell (Arthur) | 158 | | 8.9 | 4.8 | 8.0 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|-----|-----|------|-----|------|
| 223 | Clerk (Matthew) | 510 | +27 | 17.1 | 3.4 | 14.1 |
| 302 | Doverish (J A) | 540 | .. | 18.4 | 3.0 | 15.2 |
| 244 | Dottieri | 296 | +9 | 19.5 | 5.8 | 8.4 |
| 246 | Douglas, W. | 440 | | 19.5 | 3.0 | 14.1 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|-----|----|-----|-----|------|
| 53 | Highland Clay | 71 | +1 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 17.4 |
| 124 | Invergordon Dist | 128 | | 5.7 | 4.5 | 10.4 |
| 128 | Irish Dist | 145 | | 6.0 | 4.1 | .. |
| 49 | Marsden Thompson | 85 | | 2.5 | 3.9 | 14.1 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----|----|------|-----|------|
| 202 | Vaux | 278 | +3 | 14.4 | 5.2 | 11.3 |
| 128 | Westland 'A' | 196 | +3 | 9.2 | 4.7 | 10.3 |
| 127 | Do 'B' | 195 | +3 | 9.2 | 4.7 | 10.3 |

BANK'S DISCOUNT HR

| | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|-----|-----------|------|
| 80 | Ansbacher (Harry) | 85 | 50b 7.7 | 39.1 |
| 243 | Aus New Z | 278 | 28.0 10.1 | |
| 104 | Bankamerica | 177 | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|-----|---|----|-------|-----|------|
| 434 | Berkeys | 592 | 6 | +8 | 37.1b | 6.3 | 7.0 |
| 300 | Brown Shipley | 400 | | | 12.1 | 3.0 | 16.7 |
| 408 | Cater Allen | 538 | | | 41.3 | 7.7 | 9.2 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|-------|------|------|------|-----|
| 108 | Com Bank Wertes | 121 | ● +3 | 121 | 10.0 | 6.2 |
| 38 | Commerzbank | €65½ | | 60 | 0.1 | |
| 81½ | Deutsche Bank | €116½ | | 1200 | 10.2 | |

[illegible]

1. *Chlorophyll a* (Chl *a*)

| | | | | |
|------|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| 270 | 100 | 1.5 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 280 | 200 | 1.1 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 315 | 300 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 315 | 350 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 350 | 400 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 400 | 450 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 450 | 500 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 500 | 550 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 550 | 600 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 600 | 650 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 650 | 700 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 700 | 750 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 750 | 800 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 800 | 850 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 850 | 900 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 900 | 950 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 950 | 1000 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1000 | 1050 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1050 | 1100 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1100 | 1150 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1150 | 1200 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1200 | 1250 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1250 | 1300 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1300 | 1350 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1350 | 1400 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1400 | 1450 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1450 | 1500 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1500 | 1550 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1550 | 1600 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1600 | 1650 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1650 | 1700 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1700 | 1750 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1750 | 1800 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1800 | 1850 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1850 | 1900 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1900 | 1950 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 1950 | 2000 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2000 | 2050 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2050 | 2100 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2100 | 2150 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2150 | 2200 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2200 | 2250 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2250 | 2300 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2300 | 2350 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2350 | 2400 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2400 | 2450 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2450 | 2500 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2500 | 2550 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2550 | 2600 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2600 | 2650 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2650 | 2700 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2700 | 2750 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2750 | 2800 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2800 | 2850 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2850 | 2900 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2900 | 2950 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 2950 | 3000 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3000 | 3050 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3050 | 3100 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3100 | 3150 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3150 | 3200 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3200 | 3250 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3250 | 3300 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3300 | 3350 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3350 | 3400 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3400 | 3450 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3450 | 3500 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3500 | 3550 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3550 | 3600 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3600 | 3650 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3650 | 3700 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3700 | 3750 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3750 | 3800 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3800 | 3850 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3850 | 3900 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3900 | 3950 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 3950 | 4000 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4000 | 4050 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4050 | 4100 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4100 | 4150 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4150 | 4200 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4200 | 4250 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4250 | 4300 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4300 | 4350 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4350 | 4400 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4400 | 4450 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4450 | 4500 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4500 | 4550 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4550 | 4600 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4600 | 4650 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4650 | 4700 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4700 | 4750 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4750 | 4800 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4800 | 4850 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4850 | 4900 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4900 | 4950 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 4950 | 5000 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5000 | 5050 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5050 | 5100 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5100 | 5150 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5150 | 5200 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5200 | 5250 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5250 | 5300 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5300 | 5350 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5350 | 5400 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5400 | 5450 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5450 | 5500 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5500 | 5550 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5550 | 5600 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5600 | 5650 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5650 | 5700 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5700 | 5750 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5750 | 5800 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5800 | 5850 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5850 | 5900 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5900 | 5950 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 5950 | 6000 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6000 | 6050 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6050 | 6100 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6100 | 6150 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6150 | 6200 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6200 | 6250 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6250 | 6300 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6300 | 6350 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6350 | 6400 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6400 | 6450 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6450 | 6500 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6500 | 6550 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6550 | 6600 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6600 | 6650 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6650 | 6700 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6700 | 6750 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6750 | 6800 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6800 | 6850 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6850 | 6900 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6900 | 6950 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 6950 | 7000 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7000 | 7050 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7050 | 7100 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7100 | 7150 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7150 | 7200 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7200 | 7250 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7250 | 7300 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7300 | 7350 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7350 | 7400 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7400 | 7450 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7450 | 7500 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7500 | 7550 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7550 | 7600 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7600 | 7650 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7650 | 7700 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7700 | 7750 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7750 | 7800 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7800 | 7850 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7850 | 7900 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7900 | 7950 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 7950 | 8000 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8000 | 8050 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8050 | 8100 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8100 | 8150 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8150 | 8200 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8200 | 8250 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8250 | 8300 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8300 | 8350 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8350 | 8400 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8400 | 8450 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8450 | 8500 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8500 | 8550 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8550 | 8600 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8600 | 8650 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8650 | 8700 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8700 | 8750 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8750 | 8800 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8800 | 8850 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8850 | 8900 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8900 | 8950 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 8950 | 9000 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9000 | 9050 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9050 | 9100 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9100 | 9150 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9150 | 9200 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9200 | 9250 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9250 | 9300 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9300 | 9350 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9350 | 9400 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9400 | 9450 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9450 | 9500 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9500 | 9550 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9550 | 9600 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9600 | 9650 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9650 | 9700 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9700 | 9750 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9750 | 9800 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9800 | 9850 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9850 | 9900 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9900 | 9950 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| 9950 | 10000 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |

| | | | | | |
|------|--------------------|-----|------|------|------|
| 81 | Chamberlain Pn | 77 | 5.1 | 5.7 | 6.6 |
| 46 | Chamberlain & Hill | 55 | 4.2 | 5.2 | 5.7 |
| 420 | Channing | 485 | 14.3 | 2.9 | 12.5 |
| 37 | Christie Flyer | 47 | 2.1 | 4.6 | 2.6 |
| 3885 | Christie Flyer | 47 | +16 | 12.3 | 2.8 |
| 29 | Cluskey Hunt | 39 | | | |
| 35 | Cluskey Hunt | 39 | | | |
| 50 | Cluskey Hunt | 39 | | | |
| 37 | Cluskey Hunt | 39 | | | |
| 340 | Cluskey Hunt | 39 | +2 | 8.6 | 8.6 |
| | Cluskey Hunt | 39 | +10 | 14.4 | 2.7 |
| | Cluskey Hunt | 39 | | | 7.8 |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|-----|------|------|------|----|
| 125 | Spencer | 142 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 6.8 | 42 |
| 126 | Spencer | 7 | 0.7 | 1.9 | 7.4 | 46 |
| 127 | Spencer Clark | 268 | 6.6 | 3.2 | 10.6 | 34 |
| 128 | Spencer-Soren | 20 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 5.4 | 43 |
| 129 | Spencer | 63 | 7.5 | 11.0 | 6.8 | 28 |
| 130 | Spencer | 20 | 2.1 | 4.7 | 8.3 | 29 |
| 131 | Spencer | 192 | 3.0 | 10.2 | 10.7 | 37 |
| 132 | Spencer | 36 | 2.0 | 6.2 | 10.0 | 10 |
| 133 | Spencer | 304 | 10.4 | 9.4 | 23.0 | 28 |
| 134 | Spencer | 333 | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------|-----|------|------|-----|------|
| 25d | Americ Book | 439 | +15 | 2.1 | 2.6 | T7.1 |
| 281 | Americ Newspaper | 985 | | 20.0 | 2.3 | T7.1 |
| 25d | Bible (A&C) | 289 | +10 | 12.9 | 4.5 | H1.5 |
| 709 | Bureau | 655 | +5 | 57.6 | 6.5 | 25.1 |
| 398 | Catholic (Wm) | 729 | +15 | 16.4 | 2.3 | T7.2 |
| 515 | Dyn II | 842 | +18 | 16.4 | 3.7 | L6.0 |
| 68 | Evan Mkt Press "A" | 92 | +1 | 3.5 | 3.1 | 18.8 |
| 135 | Fleet | 291 | ⊕ +1 | 8.2 | 2.8 | 21.1 |

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------|----|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Return on CF | 1981 | +0 | 8.8 | 4.7 | 4.7 |
| Dividend | Ex all | b | Forecast dividend | c | Corrected |
| Interim payment | ceased | | y | Price at suspension | g |
| | | | | | and which exclude a special dividend. In this for- |
| | | | | | est, per-merger features in Forecast earnings. In Ex- |
| | | | | | distribution + Ex rights = Ex scrip or share split. |
| | | | | | y Price adjusted for late dealings. No significant |

2

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Rights issue talk bites into shares at United Biscuits

By Pam Spooner

Talk of a rights issue ate into the share price of United Biscuits yesterday, as market men lighted on the food group as the most likely candidate to make a cash call this week.

Last week's record rights from Barclays Bank, and smaller ones from Glass Glover and Ryan International, have put Throgmorton Street on the alert and the high level of gearing at UB prompted City fingers to be pointed in the group's direction. The share price dropped to 192p at one stage before settling for a 5p loss at 193p. The share price has weakened steadily in recent weeks as City hopes of takeover bid has faded.

Gearing at UB is now around 80 per cent, according to City estimates, a long way ahead of the level investors have traditionally come to expect of the company's balance sheet. Until 1981 the UB report and accounts carried a note on the company's intention to hold the debt ratio at 40 per cent, but that limitation was gradually increased to 50 per cent by last year.

The changing attitude by UB towards debt still does not account for the massive jump in borrowings which the City

£75 million, against £61.4 million in 1983.

Takeover talk which surrounded the confectionery and foods group's shares for more than a year has yet to materialise, but there are market men who still expect action on that front and such thoughts contributed to yesterday's price gain.

Among food retailers, Argyle Group rose 8p to 266p as De Zoete & Bevan, the stockbroker, reported its reaction to a recent lunch at the company. The broker sticks to its £52 million profit forecast for 1984/5, against £40.1 million previously, and raises the 1985/6 estimate to £62 million. "The shares are cheap on a longer term view," says the firm.

Bejam Group, which reveals results today, was also benefiting from kind words from stockbrokers. The shares have gained pennies steadily in recent days, and added 1p to 158p yesterday. General stores shares stayed on an upward track, still enjoying the takeover activity at House of Fraser and the expected "white knight" move as Foster Bros.

Ladbroke Group has found favour in the market in recent weeks, the shares trading at the upper end of their price range. Yesterday, the price picked up another 3p to 252p.

L. Messel, the stockbroker and one of Ladbroke's advisers, has put a "buy" tag on the shares, suggesting profits of £48 million for the whole of 1984, against £41.4 million last time. The leisure group reports results on March 28.

Shares in Tottenham Hotspur managed a 1p rise to 69p yesterday ahead of last night's match against championship rivals Manchester United. But the share price still drifts a long way below the 100p offer for sale price back in October 1983.

Brewery shares are in lively form, with Bass showing the way with a 15p gain to 534p. City analysts are enthusiastic about the growth of the brewer's market share in a declining market.

While national beer sales fell by 0.4 per cent in 1984, Bass pushed its sales 5 per cent higher and gained more than 21 per cent of the total market, according to figures published recently by Panmure Gordon, the stockbroker.

The broker reckons Bass will continue to progress, achieving profits of £250 million in 1985, against £218.4 million in the past year.

Profit growth prospects elsewhere are mixed, though Arthur Guinness & Sons and Scottish & Newcastle Breweries are expected to show strong improvement. Yesterday, Guinness shares rose 3p to 251p and S & N were up 1 1/2p to 142p.

Traded option highlights

Volume in the traded options market stayed buoyant, with more than 11,000 contracts dealt in. Again, British Telecom provided much of the business, and 4,420 BT options changed hands. The underlying share price stayed firm, rising 2p to 137 1/2p.

Other contracts attracting

attention included the share index option, where 1,317 contracts were traded. Marks & Spencer options also saw good volume, in keeping with recent trends; 1,020 M & S contracts were traded.

But the main price movements were confined to options in Bass and Shell shares.

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BRYMON

Profits at The Distillers Company are expected to show a sizable gain, up from £191.6 million in 1983-84 to £225 million in the year about to end. Distillers shares rose 9p to 296p.

At Matthew Clark, the drinks merchant which reported a 24 per cent jump in profits at the half-year stage, the share price rose 27p to 510p. The company reported on an eight month period, but gave comparable figures from 1983 to show the marked underlying improvement.

General optimism about the Budget also helped the drinks

J Hepworth & Son, the clothing retailers, burst into life yesterday as a combination of factors brought buyers into the market. Fears that Hepworth might bid for Foster Brothers are fading and analysts reckon the shares have some catching up to do with others in the sector, such as Burton Group. Next month's interim profits are expected to reach about £9 million, against £6.6 million in first half 1983/4. The shares rose 12p to 178p.

Word in the City is that, after five years of heavy increases in excise duty, the Chancellor will only impose inflation-linked rises on beers, wines and spirits. Gains of a few pence were scattered across the rest of the sector lists.

On the electricals pitches prices weakened after limited buying over the past ten days came to an end. Crystallate

Holdings slipped 5p to 190p, finding it difficult to hold its ground close to the 200p level.

James Capel, the stockbroker, believes the group is being hurt by changes in buying by British Telecom, a big customer for Crystallate. As a result, the broker has cut its forecast for the year to the end of March, which compares with profits of £5.7 million in 1983-84.

Electronic Rentals Group rose another 2p to 46p, making a two-day gain of 5p after news of its purchase of the tv and video rentals business of Dixons Group. One City forecast suggests that Electronic will see a net £5 million boost to its annual profits.

Comcap, the IBM equipment dealer and lessor, saw its share price jump 43p to 263p alongside profits news. The group made £2.44 million in 1984, against £1.55 million previously.

There is considerable optimism that Comcap will keep up its strong growth over the next few years as the money raised at the time of the share flotation last May bears fruit. The annual dividend was set at a total 1p.

On the leading shares lists prices fell back in late trade as the poorer-than-expected money supply news took the steam out of investors. In the early part of the day the FT-SE 100 share index had shown a gain of over 13 points, but by the close the market was just 9.5 points ahead at 1300. The FT 30 shares index ended the day 1.2 points up at 990.40.

Stockpile weighs down De Beers

There was little in yesterday's preliminary announcement to suggest that De Beers' shares should be held in the short term. De Beers is running to stand still in difficult market conditions which show no immediate signs of improvement.

The most significant indication of De Beers' difficulties is the unchanged dividend. The problem for British investors is that, because of the Rand's weakness over the last year, this effectively amounts to a reduction on translation into sterling of approaching 25 per cent.

A cut in the dividend does not please anybody but the reasons why there has been no increase are more worrying. One yardstick traditionally used by some analysts for the amount available for distribution has been the company's investment and other income.

This increased by 15 per cent in the year but was not passed on to shareholders and there is a suggestion that the company needs the cash to finance its diamond stockpile, which at the moment looks as if it could be forever.

Diamond stock increased marginally in physical terms and by \$95 million (£88 million) in value. The problem is that low inflation rates and high US interest rates make diamonds an unattractive investment.

De Beers is still financing the stockpile but not without stretching its resources. To add to its worries, the market may soon expand when two new diamond mines come on stream. There is also the unknown Russian factor. They caught De Beers on the hop last summer, offloading substantial

quantities of diamonds in Antwerp. Much will depend on the grain harvest.

The group still maintains a fairly tight control over the market, however, with around 85 per cent of rough diamonds passing through its hands by way of the Central Selling Organisation.

Unless the stockpile can be reduced, and fairly rapidly, this control has little benefit. De Beers could have up to two years' supply of diamonds and this at a time in the cycle when it should be starting to run down stocks and build up cash.

Exchange rate fluctuations render meaningful comparisons in the preliminary announcement almost impossible, but they cannot cloud the underlying difficulties.

De Beers will certainly bounce back, and as a South African investment remains very solid. However, if present in the mining sector is the reason for investment, now is the time for a switch into industrial metals-based businesses.

William Collins

William Collins has rounded off its five-year programme of compulsory rehabilitation with some impressive gains at present level. Profits are ahead by nearly 40 per cent on a sales gain of less than a fifth. The shares rose 15p to 720p on the figures, cheered also by the 18 per cent rise in the 1984 dividend.

The improvement in the publisher's ratios since 1979 has been quite striking. Return on capital has risen from a minute percentage while sales per employee have soared, as the retrenchment programme

has bitten deep. Borrowings now look containable at around £11.8 million, or 27.4 per cent of shareholders' funds. Nevertheless, it is clear from the breakdown of the profit and loss account at the earnings level, that the group must now run very hard to keep up. Exhaustion of the previous year's tax losses, plus the Chancellor's war on capital allowances, have combined to push up the tax charge from £2 million to £4.8 million, trimming the earnings gain to just 3.3 per cent.

Gilts

When the history of the funding programme is set to music, bards will sing of the authorities' skilful tactics of Monday and Tuesday head of the £M3 figures for banking February, which, on the face of it, look mediocre, they may have sold about £1 billion of stock in two days.

The Government Broker yesterday morning followed up his Monday raid on the market with a determined sales effort. He completed sales of his long taper, Conversion 10 per cent 2002; ran out the short tap, Exchequer 11 per cent 1990, and disposed of some tranches of his remaining taper, Treasury 9 per cent 1994. All in all, he may have extracted about £700 million from the market yesterday.

The measure of the market's disappointment after the figures was as marked as its enthusiasm before 2.30. Shorts finished about 1/2 point off their high point for the day, while longs were down about one point.

A second battle of Watling

Street? According to gilt market veterans, it was more like the Battle of Crécy, so completely was market sentiment routed. Traders queued in the morning for the short tap, and saw their applications halved in allotment. In the afternoon, that same stock had fallen by about 1/2 point, an almost unprecedented swing.

Plainly in the gilt market, it is better to travel than to arrive; hopes of a cut in base rates are now almost extinguished.

More specifically, analysts like Mr. Stephen Lewis of Phillips & Drew, are dismayed by the continued growth in bank lending, visible this month through the slight expansion in the monthly average of advances to £1.6 billion, and the sizeable switch to bill finance and away from overdraft.

Personal sector deposits also rose quite sharply by about £500 million, compared with an expected seasonal fall of about £800 million.

Arguably, bank lending should come under pressure from two sources during the spring. The lull in personal sector demand for credit may well prove temporary, while loans to the industrial sector are also picking up, contradicting the derived picture of excess liquidity in this sector of the flow of funds matrix.

Yet runaway credit demand up to the summer may well be countered by the impact of high interest rates, and in banking March at least, the aggressive funding programme. Perhaps the next set of money supply figures will help to undo some of yesterday's damage, as the more sanguine analysts suggested.

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Company _____
Address _____
Telephone _____
Type of business _____

Mid Glamorgan

Hongkong Bank

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability

Ordinary Yearly General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Ordinary Yearly General Meeting of the shareholders of the Bank will be held in the City Hall, Hong Kong, at 2.30 pm on Tuesday 14 May 1985 to transact the following ordinary business:

- 1 to receive and consider the Profit and Loss Account, the Balance Sheet and the Reports of the Directors and of the Auditors for the year ended 31 December 1984 and to declare a final dividend;
- 2 to elect Directors; and
- 3 to appoint Auditors and fix their remuneration and to consider and (if thought fit) pass the following Ordinary Resolutions by way of special business:
- 4 That the capital of the Bank be increased from HK\$8,000 million to HK\$12,000 million by the creation of 1,600 million new shares of HK\$2.50 each;
- 5 That:
 - (a) it is desirable to capitalise the sum of HK\$714,966,805 from the reserves of the Bank and that accordingly the said sum be capitalised and applied in payment in full for 285,986,722 unissued shares of the Bank of HK\$2.50 each;
 - (b) such new shares, credited as paid-up, be distributed among the shareholders who on 14 May 1985 were registered shareholders of the Bank in the proportion of one new share for every ten shares then held by them respectively;
 - (c) such new shares shall in all respects rank *pari passu* with the existing shares of the Bank, except that they shall not rank for dividends for the year ended 31 December 1984;
 - (d) the Board be and is hereby authorised to allot and issue such new shares for distribution in the manner and proportion aforesaid, but so that shares representing fractions shall be sold and the net proceeds retained for the benefit of the Bank; and
- 6 That a general mandate be and is hereby unconditionally given to the Directors to issue and dispose of additional shares not exceeding one per cent of the issued share capital of the Bank.

By Order of the Board
F R Frame
Secretary

Hong Kong, 12 March 1985

ADDISON PAGE PLC

(Incorporated in England under the Companies Act 1948 to 1981 - Registered No. 1823297)

On the basis of full acceptance of the offers contained in the merger document sent to the shareholders of Addison Communications PLC and Michael Page Partnership plc dated 19 February 1985 and upon the redemption of the non-voting redeemable shares referred to therein, the share capital of Addison Page PLC will be:

| Authorised | SHARE CAPITAL | Issued and to be issued, fully paid |
|------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 22,000,000 | Ordinary Shares of 5p each | 16,242,947 |

Addison Page PLC is the new holding company of Addison Communications PLC and Michael Page Partnership plc. The merger of these companies has created a corporate and financial communications group operating both in the United Kingdom and overseas and offering a broad range of consultancy services including design, public relations, marketing, executive selection, recruitment, employee communications and advertising.

Particulars relating to Addison Page PLC are available in the Extra Listed Securities Market Service and copies of these particulars may be obtained during normal working hours on any weekday (Saturdays excepted) up to and including 26 March 1985, from:

| | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| MORGAN GRENTELL & CO. LIMITED New Issue Department 21 Austin Friars London EC2A 3BS | PHILLIPS & DREW 150 Moorgate London EC2A 4UP | KLEINWORT, BENSON LIMITED 30 Fenchurch Street London EC3A 3BS |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Hongkong Bank

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability

Results for 1984

The Directors announce that (subject to audit) the profit of the Hongkong Bank Group for the year ended 31 December 1984 was approximately HK\$2,591 million (1983: HK\$2,492 million), an increase of 4 per cent. The profit was arrived at after providing for taxation and after making the normal transfers to inner reserves, out of which provision for changes in the value of assets has been made. Audited accounts will be published at a later date.

The Directors propose the payment of a final dividend of HK\$0.31 per share. Together with the interim dividend of HK\$0.429 million already paid, the total distribution for 1984 will amount to HK\$1,316 million (1983: HK\$1,258 million), an increase of 4.6 per cent.

Increase in Authorised Capital

The Directors intend to recommend to shareholders at the Ordinary Yearly General Meeting to be held on 14 May 1985 that the authorised capital of the Bank be increased from HK\$8,000 million to HK\$12,000 million by the creation of 1,600 million new shares of HK\$2.50 each.

Bonus Issue

The Directors also intend to recommend to shareholders at the Ordinary Yearly General Meeting that a bonus issue of shares be made in the proportion of one new share for every ten shares held on 14 May 1985 by the capitalisation of HK\$714,966,805 from the Reserve Fund of the Bank. If that recommendation is approved, the Reserve Fund will be restored by a transfer from retained profits. The bonus shares will not rank for the recommended final dividend but will rank *pari passu* with existing shares in all other respects.

Prospects for 1985

Economic growth is expected to continue at a reasonable rate in the United States and at a more modest pace in other major industrialised nations. Though this will undoubtedly be of benefit to world trade, the volatility we have seen in the foreign exchange markets and the continued problems many third world countries have in servicing their debt will mean conditions are likely to remain difficult.

In Hong Kong the picture is much improved. The successful conclusion of the Sino-British talks, a high level of exports and growing trade with China, coupled with a steadier tone in the local property market, bode well for the future.

Against this background the Directors consider that profitability of the Group will continue at a satisfactory level and are confident of their ability to recommend at least the same rate of dividend as for 1984, that is HK\$0.46 per share on the increased capital as proposed, representing an increase in distribution of 10 per cent.

Closing of Register of Shareholders

The Register of Shareholders will be closed from 22 April until 14 May 1985 (both dates inclusive). In order to qualify for the final dividend and bonus issue, all transfers (accompanied by the relevant share certificates) must be lodged with the Registrars not later than 4.00 pm on 19 April 1985.

By Order of the Board
F R Frame
Secretary

Hong Kong, 12 March 1985

BUDGET BRIEFING

Lawson likely to go for a new-look tax on gains

The racing certainty for the Budget is that there will be extensive reform of taxes on capital. The Chancellor promised as much a year ago and nothing that has happened since either to the pound or to the Government's political standing, need change his mind.

Indeed, the expectation that something will happen on the capital taxes has been heightened by the Inland Revenue's move, at the end of last month against the practice of "bondwashing" or, more accurately, dividend stripping.

This is the practice of selling securities before a dividend payment, to take the payment as a capital gain (since it is largely reflected in the price of the security) rather than as income. Since gilt-edged securities held for less than a year escape capital gains tax the practice had become popular. Now, interest will be treated as accrued on a day-to-day basis for tax purposes.

The Inland Revenue's move, it has been suggested, paves the way for the abolition of capital gains tax, with a general switch to taxing capital gains as income the logical follow-on.

However, this suggestion has been played down by Treasury officials, leaving substantial reform, rather than abolition, as the Chancellor's likely Budget route.

Capital gains are charged to tax at a rate of 30 per cent above an annual exemption allowance, currently £5,600. Capital transfers on death are charged at 30 per cent for transfers between £6,000 and £65,000, rising to a maximum of 60 per cent for transfers of £285,000-plus. Lifetime transfers are broadly taxed at half these rates.

The last big reform of capital gains tax was in 1982, when Sir Geoffrey Howe announced that both the exemption allowance and gains themselves would be index-linked.

This move, while generally welcomed, has posed big administrative problems. It has also posed the threat that the Exchequer's tax take from

After reducing stamp duty last year, the Chancellor promised to reform the main capital taxes, on transfers and capital gains. His options range from abolition of taxes that are complex and expensive to collect, to reforms that would simplify them, increasing tax-free allowances but reducing reliefs to maintain revenue. Some action in the Budget is almost certain. David Smith, Economics Correspondent, looks at the options.

| Revenue from capital taxes | | CGT bands and rates | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Year | Revenue £m | Band of chargeable value | Rate on death | Lifetime rate |
| 1986-87 | 7 | 0-64 | Nil | Nil |
| 1987-88 | 139 | 64-85 | 30 | 15 |
| 1988-89 | 387 | 85-116 | 35 | 17½ |
| 1989-90 | 431 | 116-148 | 40 | 20 |
| 1990-91 | 508 | 148-185 | 45 | 22½ |
| 1991-92 | 525 | 185-232 | 50 | 25 |
| 1992-93 | 632 | 232-285 | 55 | 27½ |
| 1993-94 | 671 | over 285 | 60 | 30 |
| 1984-85 (Treasury forecast) | 680 | | | |

*Before 1975-76, CGT revenues are those from estate duties. After 1975-76, both CGT and estate duties (£6 million in 1984-85) are included.

Source: Inland Revenue

capital gains tax, estimated at about £700 million this year, will decline dramatically as the indexation provisions take full effect.

The Chancellor has options at opposite ends of the generosity spectrum. At one end, he could abolish indexation of capital gains, acknowledging that it was a mistake, and simply tax all gains above a certain, possibly higher, exempt allowance.

This would fit in with the spirit of the move last year to abolish stock relief for companies, a move which was described as appropriate for an era of low inflation.

Administrative convenience and revenue considerations apart, this would represent a major about-face.

At the other end of the scale, indexation could be extended back to 1965, when capital gains tax was first introduced. This would not add to the administrative difficulties but would

remove a big criticism of the present arrangements, that they penalize long-term holders of assets for the inflationary gains of the 1970s.

More likely is a switching of the emphasis of capital gains tax to short-term gains. This could be done, either by restricting the tax to assets held for less than a year, or through a tapering system, whereby the tax rate is reduced the longer the asset is held, with exemption on assets held longer than, say, four or five years.

Tapering could be achieved by taxing gains on assets held for under a year at the full rate, declining to three quarters of the rate for one or two-year holdings, half for 2-3 years, a quarter for 3-4 years with full relief on assets held for more than four years.

A bolder move would be to abolish capital gains tax as such, instead taxing all gains as income. In theory, the coincidence that the basic rates of

income tax and capital gains tax are both 30 per cent, suggests that the two taxes could be dovetailed into one another without too much difficulty.

In practice, such a move would remove the cushion available to small investors through the CGT allowance. It would also, without reductions in the higher rates of income tax, double the effective rate of gains tax for the better off. The Government has previously moved from taxing share options as income to treating the proceeds as capital gains to reduce the rate and facilitate capital accumulation.

As for capital transfer tax, the rates were reduced in Mr Lawson's first Budget. The Chancellor's action last year on CGT rates may postpone any further big moves in the forthcoming Budget. He could rationalize relief to cut rates further, as with corporation tax last year.

However, if the Chancellor does have the reforming bit between his teeth, this could be the year when the many critics of capital transfer tax are rewarded with the Chancellor at least stating his intent to abolish it.

This may not prevent the Chancellor from acting on capital transfer tax avoidance schemes. The most likely candidates for such a move are the discounted gift schemes run by life insurance companies.

Under these, the individual makes a "gift" to a trust, drawing income on the assets. A rate of discount, agreed by the insurance company with the Inland Revenue, is applied to the gift, depending on the age, sex and health of the individual. The fact that the value of the gift, for CGT purposes, is greatly discounted, cuts the tax liability considerably.

The Legal & General has pioneered such schemes. However, the Inland Revenue has been rationing the entry of new participants to the market in recent months as a prelude, it is said, to the outlawing of the discounted gift schemes.

ATHLETICS



Coe: moving up in distance

Coe may be tempted to Newcastle

By Pat Butcher

Sebastian Coe will start his move up to 5,000 metres, sooner than expected if he decides to compete in the Newcastle city centre five kilometre road race on March 27. The "double Olympic" 1,500 metres champion plans to move up to 5,000 metres on the track this summer, and has been quoted as saying that he can break 13 minutes for the distance this year. The world record is held by David Moorcroft with 13min 44sec.

Coe will decide in the next day or so whether he will face David Lewis, the English national cross-country champion who was second in the inaugural Newcastle race last year, and Eamon Martin, the 1984 English cross-country champion. Mike McLeod, last year's winner, hopes to recover from back injury in time to compete.

Allister Hutton, winner of the New Year's Day Morpeth to Newcastle race, and Kevin Foster, a local runner who was second in last year's London Marathon, will also take part. BBC television have agreed to broadcast the evening race. It will be their last domestic athletics transmission for the time being, since ITV begin their five-year exclusive contract, for which they have paid £10.5 million, on April 1.

CRICKET

Greig looks to leagues

Tony Greig, the former England captain, now based in Australia, has been in contact with Jack Simmons, of Lancashire, about the possibility of playing league cricket in the county this summer. The 38-year-old South African-born all-rounder will spend next season commenting on the Ashes series in England for Australia's Channel 9 television station.

Greig, who, when England captain, led an exodus of top players into a controversial international circuit funded by Channel 9's owner, Kerry Packer, in 1977, has not played for Sussex since 1978.

"I will get in touch with Sussex," he said. "Perhaps I would play for their second team if I could be of any use. But basically I have got no idea what I am going to do. I am open to suggestions, though I am not even certain that I am going to be spending 'the whole summer in England'."

Richard Renold, the Sussex secretary, said yesterday that so far the club had heard nothing from Greig, but, if he wished to have a game with the Second XI while in England, this would naturally be considered.

Past masters

Bobby Simpson, the former Australian Test captain, will be among a host of players coming to England this summer for the "Golden Oldies Cricket Festival". Up to 80 teams are expected to compete in the festival, to be played on Sussex County Cricket Club grounds from August 16-24.

Peter Graves, the former Sussex player, who is one of the organizers, said: "The Golden Oldies must be 40 years of age or older, and the matches are organized on a 40-over basis. Teams from New Zealand, Australia, Los Angeles, Vancouver and Hong Kong have already entered, and among the old timers will be Neil Harvey, Bobby Simpson, Norman O'Neill, Bert Sutcliffe and Bev Congdon."

BOXING

Irish title bout set for London

Johajo Greene, of Donegal, and Harry Cowap, of Dublin, will fight the All-Irish light-heavyweight title on April 22, at the Elephant and Castle, London.

It will be the first time that a championship bout under the auspices of the new Irish Boxing Union, which is based in Dublin, has been staged in Britain. It becomes possible because Greene, the defending champion, is based in Manchester, while Cowap has lived in South London for eight years.

The fight will be promoted by an expatriate Irishman, Paddy Byrne, who hopes the big Irish population in London will make it a financial success. Both boxers are included in the top six in the British light-heavyweight rankings.

The former British welterweight champion, Kilkenny's Laithe, has agreed to meet Wo Lamani Wo, of Zaire, in a ten-round contest at the Granby Hall, Leicester tomorrow. Laithe fills the vacancy caused by the withdrawal of Chris Pratt, who has influenza. Laithe's brother, Tony, competes for the vacant Midlands light-welterweight title with Tony Mackenzie of Leicester, on the same bill.

Box office hit

The world middleweight title bout between Marvin Hagler, the holder, and Thomas Hearns, the challenger, will be shown on closed-circuit television at 14 venues in Britain.

These comprise three cinemas in London, and Venues in Windsor, Sheffield, Nottingham, Portsmouth, Newcastle, Birmingham, Manchester, Belfast, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen.

OLYMPIC GAMES

East Germans allay fears of Olympic boycott

From David Miller, Chief Sports Correspondent, East Berlin

East Germany intend to participate in the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul. This was confirmed yesterday by Klaus Eichler, the vice-chairman of East Germany National Sports Federation, TDSB, in an interview with *The Times*.

He implied that there were no objections to Seoul as the venue, but expressed concern about the security of athletes.

He said: "Our national Olympic committee has called upon our athletes to prepare well, and we expect from both the (South Korea) organizing committee and the International Olympic Committee that they will create equal conditions for all athletes, both in competition and in security."

The IOC is, of course, totally committed to supporting the South Koreans as hosts. However, the Soviet Union are expected to continue to harass the IOC over the next three years on several issues: primarily on the choice of South Korea as the venue Soviet participation there would conflict with their allegiance to North Korea - but also on the decision taken recently in Calgary to limit the age of entry for football, tennis and ice hockey to below 23.

Although the German Democratic Republic would have preferred another venue, they accept the democratic vote of the IOC taken in 1981. Yet it is evident that they are not only concerned about security, but about maintaining motivation for their sports organization. Many sports people here were privately dismayed by the eastern bloc withdrawal from Los Angeles.

"If the 1988 Games cannot guarantee the security of its athletes, then the whole Olympic movement is in danger," Eichler said. "And if we do not have the motivation of the Olympics then we have to have motivation from something else. We expressed how seriously we view (our participation in) 1988 when we took responsibility of organizing the nineteenth session of the IOC here in Berlin in June."

The problem of motivation for competitors is common throughout the socialist world, not least in the Soviet Union because such a prominent section of the framework of their society is based upon sporting achievement. Eichler said that the German Democratic Republic would do

anything it could to help ensure the sort of conditions which would enable its athletes to take part.

The motivation applies not merely to competitors but, especially in the GDR, to the array of coaches, doctors, judges and officials who comprise an organization which receives £125 million a year to spend on sport. It is the success of the medal winners in the Olympic Games that provides much of the encouragement for the next wave of youngsters - in a nation of only 17 million people - to commit themselves to a collective effort which is without parallel in the sporting world. Eichler was speaking shortly before joining a conference in Potsdam - which takes place every few months - of some 400 or so leading coaches from all sports, who meet to compare notes. One of the strengths of East German sport is that ideas are interchangeable not only through research but through competitors moving from one sport to another.

David Miller has been looking at East Germany, the most remarkable of sports nations. A series of articles will appear soon.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Divorcy cap is a cup blow to Hull

By Keith Macklin

The conflict between club and country has cost Hull a vital player in today's Challenge Cup quarter-final replay at Widnes. Gary Divorcy, the young back-row forward, has been selected by the Great Britain coach, Maurice Bamford, in the team to play France at Perpignan on Sunday.

Divorcy, who has developed by leaps and bounds in only two seasons of senior rugby, is part of a skilful attacking link with the talented Hull backs. However Hull can still field a workable pack at Widnes, with Crooks, Skerrett, Patrick, Edmonds, Norriss and Dannatt available. Ironically, Dannatt can play despite the fact that he is one of the substitutes to travel with the Great Britain team.

Bamford has named four new caps, the Leigh full back, Johnson, and the Wigan trio of Ford, a winger, Kias, a hooker, and a front-row forward, Wane. There are eight changes, some of them positional, from the team that thrashed France by 50-4 at Headingley last Friday week.

Bamford has made it known that he will be experimenting as his squad prepares for the more important tasks against New Zealand this winter and Australia next season. He has kept together the outstanding half-back partnership of Fox and Hanley, but in the front row only the veteran Leeds forward, Dickinson, keeps his place.

GREAT BRITAIN TEAM: C. Johnson (Leeds); G. Clark, Phil Kingston (Huddersfield); G. Greaser (Leeds); D. Ford (Wigan); P. Ford (Wigan); J. Kias (Wigan); M. Norriss (Wigan); S. Skerrett (Wigan); A. Patrick (Wigan); M. Dannatt (Wigan); M. Edmonds (Wigan); M. Norriss (Wigan); G. Divorcy (Hull); M. Bamford (Hull); P. Hanley (Leeds); P. Fox (Leeds).

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL (7.30 unless stated)

FA Cup
Sixth round
Luton Town v Millwall (7.45)
Sixth round replay
Ipswich Town v Everton
First division
Aston Villa v Arsenal
Second division
Barnsley v Brighton
Oxford United v Walsley
Third division
Derby County v Preston NE
Lincoln City v Rotherham United
Fourth division
Mansfield Town v Port Vale
Scottish Cup
Fifth round replays
Aberdeen v Hearts
Glasgow v Dundee
Scottish premier division
Morton v Dundee United
Scottish first division
Airdrieonians v Forth Athletic
Falkirk v Kilmarnock
Scottish second division
Queen of the South v Cowdenbeath

CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Northampton Forest v Derby County (7.0); Sheffield United v Liverpool (7.0). Second division: Hull City v Middlesbrough (7.0).
FOOTBALL COMBINATIONS: Portsmouth v Walsley (7.0).
GOLF LEAGUE: Northampton v Tottenham.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Bangor v Wrexham.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Alvechurch v Sharnford; King's Lynn v AP Louth; Bury v Bury. Second division: Bury v Bury. Second league: Chesham (2) v Bury (1).
SERVOVARM: BTHMAN LEAGUE: Second division: Bury v Bury.
SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Woking v Harefield.
REDFOURTH SENIOR CUP: Semi-final replay: Bury v Bury (at Bury).
COVE WINDOWS SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Second round: Huddersfield v Milton (7.45).
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Southern Amateur League v Southern Amateur League (at Bank of England FC, Rotherham, 8.0).

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Oxford University v Kato University (8.30).
GOLF LEAGUE: Northampton v Tottenham.
NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Bangor v Wrexham.
SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Alvechurch v Sharnford; King's Lynn v AP Louth; Bury v Bury. Second division: Bury v Bury. Second league: Chesham (2) v Bury (1).
SERVOVARM: BTHMAN LEAGUE: Second division: Bury v Bury.
SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Woking v Harefield.
REDFOURTH SENIOR CUP: Semi-final replay: Bury v Bury (at Bury).
COVE WINDOWS SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Second round: Huddersfield v Milton (7.45).
REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Southern Amateur League v Southern Amateur League (at Bank of England FC, Rotherham, 8.0).

HOCKEY

ATARI LONDON LEAGUE: St Albans v Oxford University (8.30).
REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES: Combined Services v UAL (at Barmby Abbey NSC, 8.0). London University v Hockey Association XI (at Motspur Park, 2.45).

BASKETBALL

CARLSBERG NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP QUARTER-FINALS: Kingston v Kingston; Brixton v Brixton; Solihull v Solihull; Nissen Bears v Nissen Bears (8.0).

OTHER SPORTS

ATHLETICS: Open meetings at Crystal Palace and Harlow.
RACQUETS: Collection Loudspeakers open doubles (at Queen's Club).

Y J LOVELL (HOLDINGS) plc

MAIN GROUP ACTIVITIES: Housing and Commercial Development, Construction, Plant Hire and Mechanical Engineering, Timber Importing & Merchandising.

Record Profits and Further Growth

| | 1984 | 1983 |
|------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Turnover | £200,133 | £189,591 |
| Profit before Tax | £6,420 | £4,556 |
| Shareholders funds | £39,573 | £35,919 |
| Dividend per Ordinary Share | 6.0p | 5.2p |
| Earnings per Ordinary Share | 25.8p | 22.6p |
| Net asset value per Ordinary Share | 200.8p | 208.7p |

HIGHLIGHTS OF 1984

- ★ Profit before Tax increases for tenth successive year - up 41% to record high of £6.42 million
- ★ Turnover exceeds £200m for first time
- ★ House sales rise by 25% to almost 2,000 - Daily Express 'Housebuilder of the Year' award
- ★ Excellent year for Plant Hire
- ★ Essex & Suffolk Properties acquired for £11.64m

"We have started the year well... the fact that we have succeeded in growing an increasingly profitable business at a time of such difficult market conditions, augurs well for the future."

Norman Wakefield, Chairman

Lovell

Bell Group to defend lawsuit

Sydney (Reuters) - Mr Robert Holmes a Court and the Bell Group, which he controls, will defend a lawsuit brought by Asarco Incorporated, the mining group, alleging violation of the US Securities and Exchange Act.

Asarco has filed suit against Mr Holmes a Court and 12 corporate affiliates in the district court in New Jersey, alleging that the Bell Group misrepresented its purpose in acquiring Asarco. The mining group filed the suit after Bell announced that it would seek clearance under the Hart-Scott-Rodding Antitrust Improvement Act for the option to increase its Asarco stake.

Base Lending Rates

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| ABN Bank | 14% |
| Adam & Company | 14% |
| Barclays | 14% |
| BCT | 14% |
| Citibank Savings | 12½% |
| Consolidated Creds | 14% |
| Continental Trust | 14% |
| C. Hoare & Co | 14% |
| Lloyds Bank | 14% |
| Midland Bank | 14% |
| Nat Westminster | 14% |
| TSB | 14% |
| Williams & Glyn's | 14% |
| Citibank NA | 14% |

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £20,000, 11%: £20,000 up to £100,000, 12%: £100,000 up to £500,000, 12½%: £500,000 and over, 12½%.

Cement-Roadstone

PROFITS MORE THAN DOUBLED

| | Year to 31 December 1984 | Year to 31 December 1983 | Increase |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| Sales | IRE476.3m | IRE454.0m | + 4.9% |
| Pre-tax Profit | IRE 20.1m | IRE 9.1m | +120.9% |
| Earnings per Share | 8.11p | 4.05p | +100.2% |
| Dividend per Share (Net) | 2.70p | 2.4366p | + 10.8% |

"Trading Profit in the U.S. was more than three times that of 1983 and more than one third of total Group Trading Profit."

"We are now well based geographically in fruitful markets. When the turnaround comes in the Irish market the pace of our progress will take a further welcome surge. In the meantime, group prospects look good."



Cement-Roadstone Holdings Plc

The largest industrial company in Ireland with substantial international interests

Badsworth Boy can silence Irish cheers in epic battle

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

With Badsworth Boy and Bobsline both standing their ground, today's Queen Mother Champion Chase has all the makings of being the needle match of the Festival meeting.

They represent the big hopes of the English and Irish camps respectively and nothing is more guaranteed to whip up an atmosphere than a clash of this nature, especially at Cheltenham.

Badsworth Boy, who has won this race for the past two seasons, is trying to become the first horse to win it three times. Bobsline, the winner of the Arkle Challenge Trophy last year, is the only natural challenger for his two-mile title to have emerged in the last 12 months.

Interestingly each has lost only one steeplechase when he has completed the course. Bobsline's November defeat was at Newbury last November when he failed by a head to give 5lb to Speedy Thatch.

Badsworth Boy's winning sequence of 16 in completed chases was finally brought to an end at Worcester towards the end of last month. But again that was no disgrace because he was trying to give Classified 21lb over 2½ miles, a distance that was always likely to prove just too far for him in that company.

My feeling is that Badsworth Boy lost absolutely no caste in defeat at Worcester and that he is still as good as ever. If that proves to be a correct analysis, he should just be able to put Bobsline in his place.

No matter how he gets on aboard Bobsline, that stylish Irish jockey Frank Berry should still have something to celebrate this evening as he has an excellent chance of winning the Sun Alliance Chase on Antarcic Bay.

The winner of his last two races at Fairyhouse, Antarcic Bay has accounted for such stout opposition as Seekin Bridge, Rainbow Warrior, Buck House and Boreen Prince.

Lucius, the other Irish challenger, finished 17 lengths behind Antarcic Bay in the second of those two races but I know that he is thought to be much better than that and capable of giving a really good account of himself this afternoon.

Rhyme 'n' Reason, beaten three lengths by the Gold Cup

hope, Drumadowney, in the Reynoldstown Novices' Chase at Ascot at the beginning of February, looks the pick of the home defence.

Pat Hughes, who trains Antarcic Bay, must also be entertaining hopes of winning the National Hunt Chase with lassure. Judged on the way that he was finishing at the end of 3½ miles at Punchestown last month, when he was third in the Ladbroke National Trial, he will have no trouble lasting four miles this afternoon.

Although the Sun Alliance Novices Hurdle has attracted the maximum number of runners and is obviously wide open, I still feel that Ten of Spades (nap) has an excellent chance of winning this nice prize for Bill Whitbread, one of jumping's staunchest supporters.

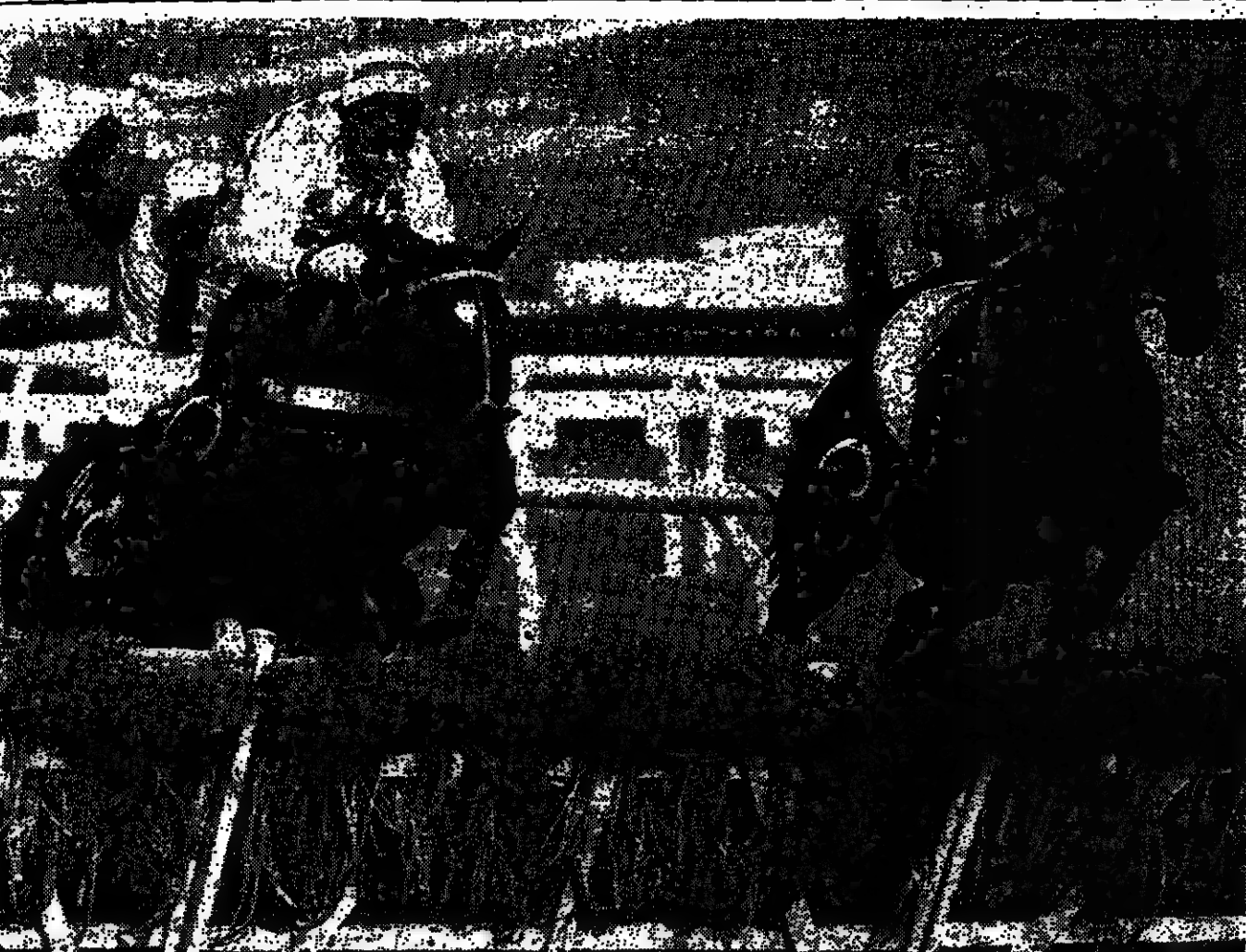
Trained at Lambourn by Stan Mellor, Ten of Spades was already won over this course this year. He followed that with another smooth performance at Ascot where I was particularly taken with his cat-like agility at every jump.

Kingswick, Lonach, Lucky Rascal, Over the Last, Tawridge, The Liquidator and Sheer Gold represent formidable opposition but I am more than hopeful that Ten of Spades can beat them all.

Being a handicap, the Coral Golden Hurdle Final looks even more fraught with pitfalls. I have seen Star Of Screen, my selection, run well enough against a better class of horse on more than one occasion this season and the handicapper may have taken a liberty in giving him only 10st 9lb.

Star Of Screen is trained near Ross-on-Wye by John Edwards, who has an uncanny knack of doing well with his runners at Festival. A year ago Star Of Screen finished sixth in the Triumph Hurdle and more recently he ran well behind Rose Ravine at Ascot.

Finally, Nicky Henderson, a trainer whose stable is very much on a crest at present, appears to have a good chance of winning the Mildmay of Flete Challenge Cup with either The Tarshevik or Green Bramble. At a difference of 10lb, the recent Lingfield winner, Green Bramble, is just preferred, although his jumping still leaves something to be desired.



See You Then (left) swoops on Gaye Brief at the last hurdle on his way to glory (Photograph: Chris Cole)

See You Then in champion style

By Michael Seely

One dramatic happening after the other made for an action-packed afternoon the opening day of the National Hunt Festival at a sun-drenched Cheltenham yesterday. John Francoeur, braced and shakily, after a second-fence fall from The Rejoice in the Arkle Challenge Trophy, was forced to surrender the winning ride on See You Then in the Waterford Crystal Champion Hurdle to Steve Smith's Ecstasy. And he has worked himself into a fine state of mind.

"I knew that was all wrong," he said afterwards. "See You Then was never going to all and he never jumped a hurdle. But I had been impressed by his win over Little Bay at Doncaster. And he has worked magnificently since. I must say that this is not a bad way to have one's first winner at the Festival."

See You Then was bought for the Lambourn trainer by Frank McMahon after the gelding's spectacular victory at Punchestown last winter. And in the Daily Express Triumph Hurdle he had been narrowly defeated by Northern Game. "I'm sure he'll jump fences," the trainer said. "Particularly considering that Gaye Brief had been unable to have a race since the Bula Hurdle in December." Both the Winner and Gaye Brief are to renew their rivalry in the Sandeman Hurdle at Aintree.

The crowd were also roused by heads off with excitement after that gallant mare, Rose Ravine had defeated her stable companion, Crimmon Embury, by a neck in the Waterford Crystal Stayers' Hurdle. The 3-1 favourite started to alter right to the last and swerved badly right on the flat, appearing to

hamper the runner-up. "I know it looked bad, but we never touched," Ricky Pusey, the winning jockey, said. "I'm in a funny position. Stuart Silston, the rider on the runner-up, said 'I nearly got put over the rails'." However, much to the fans' surprise the camera patrol film supported Pusey's opinion and the placings remained unaltered.

What a magnificent triumph! This represents for Fulka Walwyn to saddle first and second in this important race for the same owner, Mrs Pamela Smart. "I'm glad they didn't take it away from the mare as she always runs her heart out," the 75-year-old trainer said.

Funsters started the afternoon on a disastrous note when Ararat, the Irish banker at the meeting, could only finish eighth behind Harry Hastings in the Novices' Hurdle. "He didn't like the ground and could never get away from them," Paddy Mullins, the trainer, said.

John Wilson, the successful trainer from Cree Lodge, stables at Ayr, has worked wonders with Harry Hastings, who was winning his fourth hurdle race in succession. "I bought him for 8,000 guineas at Newmarket," he said. "But he had cost £20,000. I was a yearling. Harry Hastings now goes to Liverpool and I hope he'll prove to be champion Hurdle class next season."

Half Price, trained by Fred Winter, will run in the Gold Cup. His owner, Sheikh Ali Abu Khamis expressed his wish to run in the big race.

Boreen Prince leads one-two for the Emerald Isle

By John Kirtley

The conspicuous silence of the Irish after Ararat had capitulated tamed in the first race predictably lasted about as long as it takes to whip the top off a bottle of Guinness. Boreen Prince and Buck House, the boys raising the roof in traditional Cheltenham style as they swept past the English hope, Very Promising, to scoop the first two places in the Arkle Challenge Trophy.

The final picture though, looked very different from the scene at the top of the hill with five fences to jump. At this point, Don Nicholson, the man for whom the Festival has become a perennial

does pull out. Drumadowney, the new favourite, is only a novice. himself. A definite decision will be taken this morning on whether the horse, who was bought for what was called a 'hot money' at the time, will run.

But if the Arkle was another chapter in the continuing Festival misfortune of Nicholson, it was also very much the story of the rekindled fortunes of Madden, the quiet Irishman who lets his riding do the talking.

Known as "Boot" because he arrived at Eddie O'Grady's stable for his first job wearing boots for too

Burrough Hill Lad unlikely to run

Burrough Hill Lad, the strongest state-post Gold Cup favourite since Arkle, is now unlikely to run in tomorrow's Blue Bird of Cheltenham on the final day of the Cheltenham Festival.

His trainer, Jenny Pitman, said at Cheltenham yesterday: "Burrough Hill Lad is not unlikely to run in the Gold Cup. My vet is having another look at him at 9.30 tomorrow morning, but the problem is the bruise on his off-fore leg. The vet is at it right now - it is the bruising that is the trouble."

Mrs Pitman continued: "I have now entered him in the Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse on Easter Monday, and he'll probably run there, dependent on what weight he gets. I don't think he'll go to Aintree for the Whitbread Trophy because the ground is likely to be too fast for him there."

Ladbroke's latest prices for the Gold Cup are: 11-2 Combs Ditch, Drumadowney, 6-4 Earsy Briggs, 7-4 Forget, Highland Man, 10-1.

big for him. Madden came over to England to ride for John Edwards two seasons ago, but everything went wrong through no fault of his own and he returned to the Emerald Isle at the beginning of the current campaign, where he swiftly got back into winning ways.

If Boreen Prince showed plenty of heart in achieving his victory, then Glyde Court almost certainly did so in winning the Kim Muir Challenge Cup. Glyde Court has a "tickled" heart and must be allowed several weeks between his races.

Clearly it does not hinder him when he does perform, because he showed the utmost courage under the most adverse conditions at Brunton Park, the favourite, who looked certain to swamp him coming down the hill for the final time.

Fred Winter, Glyde Court's trainer, was entitled to wear a smile as broad as one of the open ditches because this was a rare highlight in what for him has been a disappointing season.

The afternoon closed with another admirable professional demonstration from Steve Smith Eccles. Still euphoric from his Champion Hurdle triumph, he timed his challenge perfectly as he rocketed Kithley's Lad to the lead on the final bend in the Grand Annual Chase. The top weight strode clear from Midnight Song to take Smith Eccles into the lead for the Ritz Club Trophy for the meeting's leading rider.

Killybeg, trained by William Hastings, was ruled by a nose to win the £3,575 Prix de Palmiers at Cagnes-sur-Mer yesterday. Killybeg was caught on the line by the fast finishing Pagan.

Results from Cheltenham

Going Good: 2.15 WATERFORD CRYSTAL SUPREMACY NOVICE HURDLE (Grade 1, £22,000, 2m) (30 runners) HARRY HASTINGS b g by Vespugo Novice County Green (R) 10-14-5

Also Ran: 4-5 by Ararat (10-14-5) 6-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 7-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 8-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 9-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 10-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 11-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 12-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 13-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 14-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 15-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 16-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 17-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 18-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 19-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 20-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 21-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 22-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 23-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 24-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 25-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 26-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 27-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 28-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 29-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5) 30-11-2 by Ararat (10-14-5)

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We are seeking a Secretary/PA with good organising ability, working in a busy and varied environment, you will arrange customer appointments, travel and senior management meetings.

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For professional secretarial career counselling and an opportunity to find out what the best job in London is for you, please telephone T M International Ltd, 50 Hans Crescent, London SW1. Tel: 01-689 0909/84 9033/81 1805 from 9am till 7pm.

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PROPERTY NORTH OF THE THAMES

Trade 01-837 0645 Private 01-837 3333 or 3311

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY/1

Now is the time for selling - worry later about buying

By Christopher Warman
Property Correspondent

Spring, which is not far away, used to be when a young man's fancy turned to thoughts of love. In this less romantic age, the thoughts of a young man or woman turn to moving house. The practical questions that arise are whether to enter the fray before or after Easter - depending on its date, of course - and whether to buy or sell first.

In the South of England, where spring seems to come earlier, Pearsons, agents with 35 offices, suggest that the time is ripe for selling, and that you should sell first. Richard Willis, a residential divisional partner at Pearsons' head office at Winchester, reports the results of a survey they have carried out which highlights a recent trend.

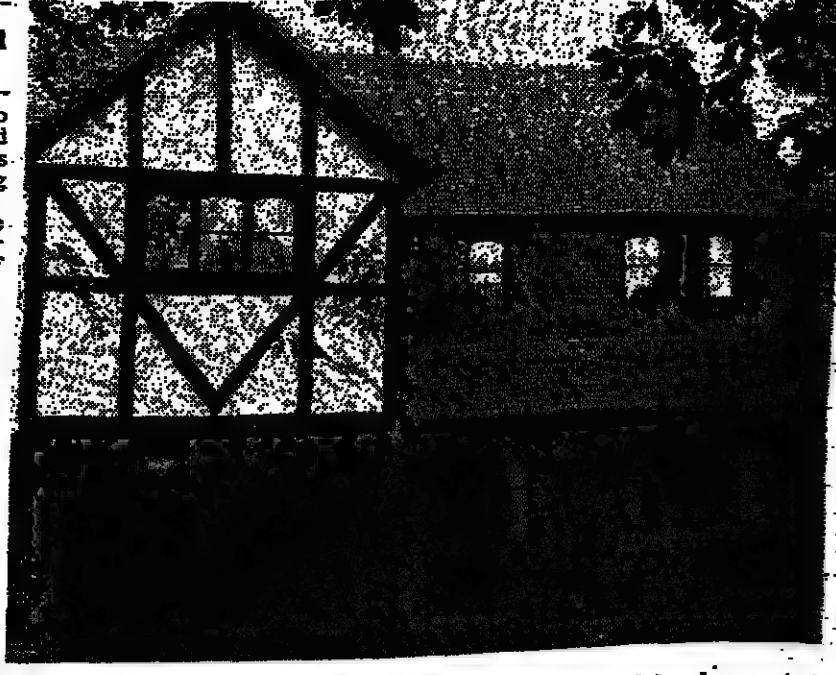
He says that over the last five years, instructions to sell houses have been 7.2 per cent lower during the month before Easter compared to the month after Easter. In contrast, sales have been 13.1 per cent higher in the month before Easter compared with the following month.

Mr Willis concludes: "This shows that many vendors mistakenly wait until Easter and springtime before placing their properties on the market, although the market is generally more buoyant earlier than expected with considerable activity for potential purchasers well before Easter."

This growing awareness is also noted by the Halifax Building Society in their latest index of house prices. In February house prices increased by only 0.3 per cent, giving an annual rate of house price inflation of 9.1 per cent, the first fall in this figure for six months. A Halifax official commented: "People are not keen to buy houses in winter, but the first signs of spring are beginning to bring house buyers back to the market."

Despite the increase in the cost of borrowing, the Halifax branches are reporting an upturn in demand for housing finance, and the winter lull has meant that for the time being funds are quite readily available. The official said: "We are now entering the period when we would expect demand for funds to move ahead strongly. The higher cost of borrowing could well postpone some of this expected increase."

The society looks to a "job-creating" Budget next week to help boost demand, but says that a sustained reduction in market rates of interest and hence the cost of borrowing would be a greater and welcome influence. It is likely that the overall situation and prospects point to an



The five-bedroom Marlborough house at Algreys Homes' development at Rotherfield on the Kent/Sussex borders, which is priced at £133,000

increase in house prices this year of around 8 per cent.

On selling and buying, Pearsons say that almost without exception it is better to put your house on the market before you start looking for an alternative.

Mr Willis says that the most important feature of the market last year was longer chains and high fall-out numbers. He adds: "This was caused largely by people going to the market ill-prepared and making offers for property before they had marketed their own. By trying to purchase first, this only had the effect of further reducing the housing stock available to purchase. With the reduced number of properties on the market, people are more inclined to want to find an alternative first, which has the snowball effect of reducing still further the housing stock."

In general, therefore, Pearsons feel that if people buy first it will inevitably lead to longer chains.

With the Ideal Home exhibition as an added impetus, housebuilders are well aware of the need to have houses ready for the spring buyers. Algreys Homes, with sites mainly in the South and up to the Midlands, build about 500 houses a year, and their developments at Tollwood Park, Crowborough, with a range of houses from three to five bedrooms, and at Rotherfield in Sussex, offer a good variety of new houses.

At Rotherfield, a historic conservation village, their Court Meadow development of 40 houses had to face close inspection from the planning authority before it could go ahead, and to blend with the surroundings and to satisfy sceptical local people.

Overlooking open countryside of the local parish church, the houses range from a one-bedroom bungalow at around £63,000 to the Marlborough five-bedroom house at £133,000. With timbered Tudor or traditional Sussex styling to the house fronts, and traditionally built with Sussex tiles and bricks, Algreys have been determined to clothe their luxurious Marlborough house sympathetically and fill it with a blend of the most modern equipment and traditional comfort - for example an open fire in the drawing room.

At the lower end of the range, buyers tend to be people who are looking towards retirement, whose families are grown up and are trading down from their larger houses. Although they are not retirement homes, Algreys, who have several developments of retirement homes, are aware of the needs of the elderly so the design incorporates features which could be of use, such as straight staircases which could accommodate a chair lift.

The houses all have an alarm system, and the facility is available for an answer call system in case of emergency.

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